

**THE UNIVERSITY
OF ILLINOIS
LIBRARY**

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1894/95-1915/16

LIBRARY
SCHOOL

LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION,

HEGINBOTTOM FREE LIBRARY.

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

FREE LIBRARY COMMITTEE,

FOR THE

Year ending March 18th, 1895.

Committee and Officers,

1894-5.

CHAIRMAN :

ALDERMAN ANDREW.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR BROMLEY.

THE MAYOR.

ALDERMEN MARLAND, SIDDALL, AND WILSON.

COUNCILLORS COOKE, A. E. MELLOR, J. E. MELLOR,
PARK, POLLITT, AND J. B. POWNALL.

HONORARY MEMBERS :

REV. THOS. GREEN, MESSRS. W. J. ANDREW,
D. F. HOWORTH, GEORGE PEARSON,
AND EDWARD STRINGER.

CHIEF LIBRARIAN :

D. H. WADE.

ASSISTANTS :

J. A. WROE AND J. RADCLIFFE.

CARETAKER :

JOHN HOLLINGWORTH.

027.142

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LIBRARY

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA.

REPORT

OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE

HEGINBOTTOM FREE LIBRARY,

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

The Committee beg to present to the Council their Report for the year ending March 18th, 1895.

This Report dates from the day on which the issue of books was re-commenced in the new building. At present the number of borrowers is not so great as it was when the Library was closed previous to its removal and the printing of the new Catalogue, but the number is steadily increasing, and will very soon be greater than formerly.

The number of volumes in the Library is 13,104, being an increase of 408 for the year, of which 275 were presented, 109 purchased, and 24 obtained by subscription. Of the worn-out and incomplete volumes, 165 were replaced. The latter number is a high one, and the replacements will continue to be a serious item of expenditure until the majority of the volumes, especially those of the Fiction Class, have all been rebound in the strong binding at present used, or replaced by volumes bound directly from the sheet in the same style.

631900

11-3-27 EB

SEP 6 '97

Bdy

The issue of the Lending Department reached 51,097, and the daily average has steadily increased from 118 to 220, giving a daily average for the whole year of 177.

The issue of the Reference Department reached 3,545, giving a daily average of 12. This average has also gradually increased from 3·8, the daily average of the first three months, to 24 for the last three months.

THE NEWS ROOM

is well patronised all the week through, and so far the readers seem to have appreciated the improved arrangements. The Newspapers, of which there are 38, have been supplied regularly throughout the year. The Yorkshire papers are now placed on the stands at 9·0 a.m. instead of 11·30 a.m., as formerly, and this innovation has greatly pleased the readers, many of whom have favourably commented on the alteration. A complete list of the Newspapers is given in the information which follows this Report.

THE READING AND MAGAZINE ROOM

is also well attended throughout the greater part of each day, not only by persons who come for recreative reading, but also by students and others in search of information. Judging from its present popularity, the room will soon be too small.

The total number of Periodicals on the tables in this room is 105. Time Tables of the twelve principal railways are also supplied by the respective Companies.

Everything in the room is more carefully used than when it was first opened, with the result that persons

have much more readily purchased the second-hand magazines and reviews that are not bound and added to the Library.

INDICATOR.

The Indicator has proved a very useful adjunct to the Library as regards the efficient recording of issues, and has been generally accepted by the borrowers as an improvement on the old system.

Some interesting statistics and details of information will be found in the following pages:—

Number of Volumes in Stock on March 18th, 1895.

LENDING DEPARTMENT:

Periodicals, &c.	709
Philosophy, Theology, &c.	450
Law, Politics and Commerce	286
Philology and Literary History	51
Science, Art and Natural History	840
Biography, Geography, History, &c.	2240
Classical and Miscellaneous Literature	686
Poetry and Drama.....	475
Fiction	3336

9073

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT	4031
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TOTAL	13104
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Lending Department.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1894. MONTH.	Periodicals etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, Geography, History, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average.
March	34	16	10	2	82	88	15	10	925	1182	10	118
19th to 31st.												
April	87	46	31	18	250	261	62	27	3009	3791	25	152
May	94	48	24	10	188	243	64	40	3334	4045	24	169
June	93	57	17	16	192	249	69	48	3658	4399	26	178
July	74	41	15	7	157	228	58	31	3406	4017	26	155
August	39	17	6	1	53	58	28	15	1314	1531	12	128
1st to 15th.												
September	87	46	34	17	203	272	54	53	3301	4067	24	169
October	121	70	51	16	279	374	91	70	3790	4862	27	180
November	135	51	45	10	256	362	103	68	3930	4960	26	191
December	121	65	43	13	239	350	103	51	3857	4842	24	202
1895.												
January	153	59	25	28	243	328	100	53	4019	5008	26	193
February	149	58	33	5	213	372	117	59	4087	5093	24	212
March	98	37	16	7	145	238	90	31	2638	3300	15	220
1st to 18th.												
Totals	1285	611	350	150	2500	3423	954	556	41268	51097	289	177

Reference Department.

Giving the Monthly issue in each Class, the number of days the Library was open, Total No. of Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1894. MONTH,	Periodicals, Reports, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, History, etc.	Local and Miscellaneous	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average.
March	10	—	—	2	12	1	2	27	10	3
19th to 31st.										
April	35	2	—	1	38	2	12	90	25	4
May	61	5	—	5	29	6	17	123	24	5
June	33	8	6	7	35	6	10	105	26	4
July	36	5	5	—	22	6	31	105	26	4
August	21	4	2	—	14	10	16	67	12	6
1st to 15th.										
September	52	13	3	1	28	9	8	114	24	5
October	178	6	1	2	28	34	49	298	27	11
November	286	2	3	8	49	24	76	448	26	17
December	388	3	—	2	32	19	60	504	24	21
1895.										
January	533	2	3	1	50	27	48	664	26	26
February	495	4	4	4	62	41	32	642	24	27
March	241	1	4	3	37	16	56	358	15	24
1st to 18th.										
Totals	2369	55	31	36	436	201	417	3545	289	12

Issues of Lending and Reference Departments combined.

1894. MONTH.	Periodicals, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics and Commerce.	Philology, and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, Geography, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average.
March.....	44	16	10	4	94	89	17	10	925	1209	10	121
19th to 31st.												
April	122	48	31	19	288	263	74	27	3009	3881	25	156
May	155	53	24	15	217	249	81	40	3334	4168	24	173
June	126	65	23	23	227	255	79	48	3658	4504	26	173
July	110	46	20	7	179	234	89	31	3406	4122	26	159
August	60	21	8	1	67	68	44	15	1314	1598	12	134
1st to 15th												
September	139	59	37	18	231	281	62	53	3301	4181	24	174
October	299	76	52	18	307	408	140	70	3790	5160	27	191
November	421	53	48	18	305	386	179	68	3930	5408	26	208
December	509	68	43	15	271	369	163	51	3857	5346	24	223
1895.												
January	686	61	28	29	293	355	148	53	4019	5672	26	219
February	644	62	37	9	275	413	149	59	4087	5735	24	239
March	339	38	20	10	182	254	146	31	2638	3658	15	244
1st to 18th,												
Totals.....	3654	666	381	186	2936	3624	1371	556	41268	54642	289	189

An Account and Classification of Receipts.

1894. MONTH.	Fines.	Borrowers' Tickets.	Catalogues.	Old Papers.	Post Cards for Reserving Books.	Total Receipts.
March	£ s. d. 0 0 0	£ s. d. 2 4 5	£ s. d. 10 4 0	£ s. d. 0 3 0	£ s. d. 0 0 6	£ s. d. 12 11 11
19th to 31st.						
April	0 4 10	2 8 4	7 8 0	1 4 8	0 0 0	11 5 10
May	1 10 6	0 17 7	2 6 0	0 9 1	0 1 2	5 4 4
June	0 19 3	0 12 5	1 16 0	0 2 4	0 0 11	3 10 11
July	1 10 10	0 2 3	0 8 0	0 3 3	0 0 0	2 4 4
August	2 8 7	0 12 3	0 8 0	0 10 9	0 1 1	4 0 8
1st to 15th.						
September	0 2 0	0 12 9	0 6 0	0 1 2	0 1 5	1 3 4
October	0 16 0	0 15 2	0 8 0	0 4 10	0 0 0	2 4 0
November	1 3 1	0 9 10	0 16 0	0 0 7	0 2 7	2 12 1
December	0 16 0	0 8 4	0 0 0	0 5 1	0 0 0	1 9 5
1895.						
January	0 12 3	0 8 4	1 0 0	0 19 11	0 3 3	3 3 9
February	3 0 7	0 8 4	1 8 0	0 8 7	0 0 0	5 5 6
March	1 16 10	0 8 4	0 14 0	0 9 10	0 7 0	3 16 0
1st to 18th.						
Totals.....	£15 0 9	£10 8 4	£27 2 0	£5 3 1	£0 17 11	£58 12 1

General Summary.

LENDING AND REFERENCE DEPARTMENTS.

Volumes presented.....	275
Volumes purchased:—	
Replacements	165
Additions	109
Volumes of Societies' Publications obtained by Subscription	24
Volumes bound	300
Volumes in Stock	13104
Total number of Issues	54642
Average Daily Issue	189
Number of Borrowers eurolled.....	2535
Tickets Cancelled	89
Approximate number of Tickets in force	2446
Overdue books written for	220
Books lost	2

GENERAL DATA.

Population	40463
Rateable Value	£153054
Public Libraries' Act adopted	1880
News Room (Town Hall) opened	1st August, 1881
Library (Town Hall) opened by the Mayoress (Mrs. Ely Andrew).....	25th March, 1882
Heginbottom Technical School and Free Library formally opened by the Mayor (Alderman Ely Andrew) and Alderman Thos. Heginbottom,	1st July, 1893
Books removed from Town Hall to new Building, December,	1893
News Room opened	1st January, 1894
Issue of books re-commenced.....	19th March, 1894

DONORS OF BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, ETC., FREE LIBRARY.

v. Volumes, r. Reports, p. Pamphlets, n. Numbers.

Addison, John, Esq., Q.C., M.P.,	151	<i>v</i>
Agent General, New South Wales	1	<i>v</i>
Agent General for Queensland	1	<i>p</i>
Allen, W. H. & Co., (the publishers)	2	<i>v</i>
Allin, Rev. Thomas	1	<i>v</i>
Andrew, Alderman Ely	40	<i>v</i>
Andrew, Walter J., Esq.	4	<i>v</i>
Anthropological Institute..... 45 <i>v</i> , and	1	<i>n</i>
Anti-Vivisection Society	2	<i>v</i>
Archer, Mark, Esq. (the author)	4	<i>v</i>
Ashton-under-Lyne and District Anti-Compulsory Vac- cination Society	1	<i>v</i>
Atkinson, Mrs., (Carlisle) 87 <i>v</i> , & 14 maps, prints, etc.		
Axon, W. E. A., Esq.	1	<i>p</i>
Backhouse, Mrs. Sunderland.....	2	<i>v</i>
Baker, Thomas, Esq., (the author).....	1	<i>v</i>
Barlow, Edwin, Esq.	3	<i>v</i>
Berdoe, Edward, Esq. (the author)	1	<i>v</i>
Bewley, E. W., Esq.	1	<i>v</i>
Billing, Mrs.....	1	<i>v</i>
Blake, W. F., Esq.	3	<i>v</i>
Board of Trade	2	<i>r</i>
Booth, Councillor C. H.	1	<i>v</i>
Brassey, Lord	1	<i>v</i>

Brickell, J., Esq.	4 v
British Association.....	40 v
British and Foreign Bible Society	96 v
British Museum	301 v
Britten, Emma H., (authoress)	1 v
Bromley, Councillor F. W.	3 v
Brooks, C. P., Esq.	2 v
Broomhead, Joseph, Esq.	2 p
Browne, T. B., Esq., (the publisher)	4 v
Browne, Leigh, Trustees of.....	1 v
Buckley, James, Esq.	7 v
Burdett, H. C., Esq.	1 v
Burdett-Coutts, The Right Hon. the Baroness	1 v
Burton, John H., Esq.	25 v. & 30 p
Catlow, Councillor T.	1 v
Clarendon Press	27 v
Clay, Richard, & Sons	7 n
Cobbe, Frances Power (the authoress).....	1 v
Cobden Club.....	27 v. & 67 p
Cohen, Gustavus (the author)	2 v
Colbeck, George, Esq.	6 v
Comptroller of Currency, U.S.A.....	1 v
Consul General of Peru	1 v
Cooper, Cephas, Esq.	3 v
Co-operative Society, Ashton-under-Lyne	14 v
Commissioner of Labour	5 r
Commissioner of Patents	292 v
Congregational Union	10 v
Constantine, J., Esq.	1 v
Corporation of the City of London	1 v
Coulthart, J. R., Esq.....	1 v
Currie, Sir Donald.....	1 v
Dale, Mrs., "Essdee" (the authoress).....	1 v
Danson, John I., Esq. (the author)	1 v
Darnton, H. T., Esq.	134 v
Doherty, Dr. Hugh	2 v

Dougal, F. H. & Co. (the publishers)	2 v
Durham University	9 v
Earl and Countess of Stamford and Warrington	207 v
Ehrenfechter, C. A., Esq.	1 v
Erith, F. N., Esq.	1 v
Farron, J., Esq.	1 v. & 3 p
Fisher, Matthew, Esq.	3 v
Foster, Miss E.	1 v
Foster, Thomas, Esq.	21 v. & 2 n
France, O. E. L., Esq.	1 v
Freeman, Henry, Esq.	1 v
Friend, A, per W. H. Waterhouse, Esq.	1 v
Fryer, Alfred C., Esq.	1 v
Gardiner, Doctor	16 v
Garforth, Walter, Esq.	1 v
Garrick, Sir J. F.	1 v
Gillott, B., Esq.	19 v. & 2 p
Gordelier, Charles, Esq.	6 v
Green, Rev. Thos., M.A.	8 v. & 227 n
Greenwood, Thomas, Esq. (the author)	1 v
Griffin & Sheard	23 v. & 2 p
Griffith, Rev. A. (the author)	1 v
Guiness, H. Gratton, Esq. (the author)	1 v
Guthrie, Malcolm, Esq.	3 v
Hallam, John, Esq.	1 p
Hallsworth, W. H., Esq.	3 v
Hampson, Mrs. J.	29 v
Hampson, George, Esq.	1 v
Hampson, J. T., Esq.	14 v
Harrison, Mrs.	21 v
Hartley, Richard, Esq.	1 v
Hazell, Watson & Co.	2 v
Hebron, James, Esq.	3 v
Heginbottom, Alderman T.,	3 v. and 24 p

Heginbottom, George, Esq., Exors. of.....	2082	v
105 n. (Ruskin's works) and six parts purchased with £570 Bequest and Interest.		
Heginbottom, G., Esq., Exors. of	1	v
Hibbert, Alderman, (Preston)	2	v
Hildyard, Rev. J.	2	v
Hind, John, Esq., (Sydney)	1	v
Hooper, Rev. F. B., (the author)	4	v
Hopkinson, J. & Co., (the publishers)	1	v
Hoskins, John (the author)	1	v
Howard Association	2	v
Howorth, Miss.....	1	v
Howorth, D. F., Esq. ....95 v. 2 p. 143 n. and "Albion Congregational Magazine."		
Huggins, S., Esq.,	1	v
Hughes, J. E., Esq.	1	v
Imperial Institute	1	v
Institution of Civil Engineers	1	v
Irish Unionist Alliance.....	17	v
Johnson, David, Esq.	8	v
Kelsall, John, Esq.	3	v
Kenyon, T., Esq. ....3 v. &	1	p
King, Messrs., & Son	7	p
Knighton, William, Esq., (the author)...	1	v
Knott, Herbert, Esq.	1	v
Lancashire Industrial College	1	v
Lancashire Finance Committee.....	1	v
Lee, Samuel, Esq.....	6	v
Leng, Sir W., & Co.	1	v
Library Committee of the Corporation of the City of London	1	v
Linnæan and Botanical Society, Ashton-under-Lyne ...	1	v
Little, J., Esq.	9	v
Littlewood, James, Esq.	4	v
Lloyd, Miss	1	v

Lloyd, Sampson S., Esq.	1 v
London University	3 v
Macfie, R. A., Esq., Dreghorn Castle	2 v
Mackenzie, H., (the authoress)	2 v
McNicoll, E., Esq.	1 v
Macpherson, Mrs. B.	2 v
Manchester Free Library Committee	3 v. & 4 r
Manchester Statistical Society	36 v
Marshall, William, Esq.	12 v
Mason, Hugh, Esq.	1004 v
Matson, Miss	1 v
Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses.....	1 v
Medical Officer of Health for the County Palatine of Lancaster	2 v
Mellor, Councillor J. E.....	5 v
Mellor, Stewart & Bell (Liverpool)	1 v
Mills, Mrs. S.	1 v
Minton, Francis, Esq. (the author)	2 v
Moore, Jane	1 v
Morgan, O. V., Esq., M.P.	5 p
Morris, J. C. S., Esq. (the publisher)	2 v
Morrison, Mrs. Frank	1 v
Napier, M., Esq.	1 v
National Society for Promoting Social Science.....	6 v
Newton, G. H., Esq.	1 v
North British Railway Co.,	1 v
Ogden, John, Esq.	15 v
Ontario Government Agency	1 v
Owen's College.....	2 v
Park, Councillor A.	24 v., 3 n., 1 p
Parker, R. K., Esq.	1 v
Parkinson, M., Esq.,	1 v
Parry, Thomas, Esq.	11 v
Paterson, James, Esq.....	4 v
Patton, John M., Esq. (the author)	1 v

Pearce, John, Esq. (the author)	2 v
Pickles, Thomas, Esq.	1 v
Pitman, Isaac, Esq.	78 v
Popoff, Constantine, Esq. (the translator)	1 v
Pownall, Councillor J. B.	3 v
Rawlings, Edward, Esq.	1 v
Record Society.....	3 v
Redfern, C. E., Esq.	7 v
Redgrave, Mrs. R.	1 v
Ridgway, Edward, Esq.	1 v
Robisher, Joseph, Esq.	1 v
Robson, W., Esq.	1 v
Rolls, Master of the.....	268 v
Royal Agricultural Society	23 v. & 10 r
Ryecroft Chapel, The Deacons..	1 v
Sanitary Assurance Association	1 v
Scottish Life Assurance Society	2 v
Secretary of State for India.....	119 v
Sell, Henry, Esq.	3 v
Shaw, John, Esq.	7 v
Shorthouse, E., Esq.,	4 v
Sidebottom, J., Esq. (the author)	1 v
Simon, John S. Esq.	1 v
Smith, Rev. Robert	4 v
Smith, W. H. & Sons	1 v
Smithsonian Institute.....	51 v. & 2 p
Society of Accountants	4 v
Society of Arts	2 v
Somerville, A., Esq.....	1 v
Sonnenschein, W. Swan & Co.	2 v
Spears, Rev. W.....	1 v
Stone-Burbery, J. Esq.	1 v
Street & Co.	1 v
Stubbs, Messrs., & Co. (the publishers)	4 v
Sunderland, J. E., Esq.....	16 a
Sully, James, Esq.	1 v

Sutcliffe, N. B., Esq.	11 v
Suthers, Mrs.	1 v
Swedenborgian Society	40 v
Taylor, John T., Esq.	1 v
Taylor, Thomas, Esq.	7 v
Thompson, George, Esq. (the author)	2 v
Thompson, Joseph, Esq. (the author)	1 v
Thompson, W. P., Esq. (the author)	2 v
Thompson, Mrs. Percy	1 v
Thorpe, Luke, Esq.	1 v
Tolstoi, Leon, Esq. (the author)	1 v
Town Clerk (Guildhall)	3 v
Tucker, Captain Charlton	1 v
Union of Lancashire and Cheshire Institutes.....	77 v
University Correspondence College	1 v
Vacher, Francis, Esq. (the author)	2 v
Victoria University.....	1 v
Virtue, Messrs. J. S. & Co. (the publishers)	1 v
Voysey, Rev. C. (the author)	6 v
Wade, D. H., Esq.	2 v
Waddie, John, Esq. (the author).....	1 v
Wainwright, Joel, Esq.	1 p
Warne, Charles A., Esq.	1 v
Waterhouse, W. H., Esq.	10 v
Wilde, J. T., Esq.	7 v
Williams, Howard, Esq.	1 v
Whitehead, Alderman Sir James	1 v
Williams, Messrs. Paul & Co. (the publishers)	2 v
Wise, Thomas A., Esq.	1 v
Younger, D. (the author)	1 v

NOTE:—In future Annual Reports lists of Donors for each year, ending 31st of December, only will be given.

Annual Reports from the following Libraries:—Barking, Bradford, Cambridge, Cardiff, Clapham, Clerkenwell, Edinburgh, Folkestone, Glasgow, Hammersmith, Kidderminster, Leeds, Manchester, St. Giles, St. Helens, Willesden, Wolverhampton, etc.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES. PERIODICALS
AND REVIEWS, SUPPLIED TO THE NEWS
AND READING ROOMS.

* Those papers marked with an asterisk are presented.

DAILY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Evening Reporter	London Daily Chronicle
Ashton-under-Lyne Evening Standard	„ „ News
Daily Graphic	„ „ Telegraph
Freeman's Journal	„ Times
Glasgow Herald	Manchester Courier
* Irish Times	„ Evening Mail
Leeds Mercury	„ Evening News
Liverpool Courier	„ Guardian
Liverpool Daily Post	Pall Mall Gazette
Lloyd's List	Scotsman
	Sheffield Daily Telegraph
	St. James's Gazette
	Yorkshire Post

WEEKLY.

All the Year Round	Builder
Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter	* Canadian Gazette
Ashton-under-Lyne Herald	Cassell's Saturday Journal
Athenaeum	Chambers's Journal
Boys' Own Paper	Christian World
Broad Arrow	* Civil Service Aspirant

WEEKLY—*Continued.*

Colliery Guardian	Labour News
* Co-operative News	Land and Water
Cotton Factory Times	Literary World
* Drapers' Record	* Local Government Journal
Economist	London Guardian
Engineer	Manchester City News
England	Manchester Courier
English Mechanic	Manchester Weekly Times
Era	Nature
Field	Oldham Chronicle
Fun	* Phonetic Journal
Gardeners' Chronicle	Punch
Gentlewoman	* Rural World
Graphic	Saturday Review
* Grocers' Review	Speaker
Illustrated London News	Spectator
Independent and	* Spinning Wheel
Nonconformist	Tablet
Irish Catholic	Textile Mercury
* Iron and Coal Trades	Truth
Review	* Two Worlds
* Journal of the Society of	* University Correspondent
Arts	Volunteer Service Gazette
Judy	* Warehouseman and Draper
	World.

MONTHLY.

* Albion Congregational	Bookseller
Magazine	Bookworm
* Animals Friend	British Workman
Antiquary	Cassells' Family Magazine
Army List	Century
Band of Hope Review	* Charity Record
* Bible Advocate	* Child's Guardian
Blackwoods' Magazine	Contemporary Review

MONTHLY—*Continued.*

Cornhill Magazine	Magazine of Art
* Cottager and Artizan	* Musical Herald
* Educational Times	Musical Times
English Illustrated Magazine	* National Church
* Foresters' Miscellany	Nineteenth Century
Fortnightly Review	* Our Own Gazette
* Free Life	* Positivist Review
Gentleman's Magazine	* Protestant Observer
Good Words	* Return of the Deaths of Seamen
Harper's Monthly	Science Gossip
* Herald of Peace	* Season
* Independent Methodist	Strand Magazine
Investor's Manual	Temple Bar
Knowledge	Textile Manufacturer
* Labour Gazette	Textile Recorder
Leisure Hour	* Vaccination Inquirer
Liberator	* Vegetarian Messenger
Longman's Magazine	* Western World
* Machinery Market	Westminster Review
Macmillan's Magazine	* Zoophilist

QUARTERLY.

Dublin Review	Historical Review
Edinburgh Review	Quarterly Review
* Emigrant	Post Office Guide
	Statistical Journal

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

* Caledonian	* London, Brighton, and South Coast
* Great Eastern	* London, Chatham, and Dover
* Great Northern	* Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire
* Great Western	* Midland
* Lancashire and Yorkshire	* South Eastern
* London and North Western	
* London and South Western	

DIRECTORIES.

Kelly's Post Office London Directory
 Kelly's Directory of Cheshire
 Kelly's West Riding of Yorkshire
 Slater's Directory of Lancashire County
 Slater's Directory of Manchester and Liverpool
 * Advertiser's A. B. C. Directory
 * Sell's Directory of the World's Press
 * Stubbs' Directory
 * Commercial Directory

FILES OF NEWSPAPERS.

The "Times ".....	from 1881 to date.
The "Manchester Guardian".....	„ 1883 „
The "Manchester Courier ".....	„ 1887 „
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter".....	„ 1860 „
The "Stalybridge Herald".....	for 1888.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Herald".....	from 1889 to date.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Standard,".....	1860-66, 1870-83, and 1885.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne News".....	from 1868-1873.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION.

HEGINBOTTOM FREE LIBRARY,

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

LIBRARY.

1.—The Librarian shall have general charge of the Library, and be responsible for the safe keeping of the books and all other property belonging thereto.

2.—Library Hours, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., every week-day except Tuesday, when it is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Library is closed on Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Good Friday, Friday in Whitsun Week, Bank Holidays, Wakes Week and the week following (for stocktaking and cleaning), and such other days as the Committee may from time to time appoint.

3.—Every person above the age of 16 years who is either resident or rated within the Municipal Borough, shall be entitled to borrow books from the Library on obtaining a borrower's ticket, so long as such ticket shall remain in force.

4.—Every person desirous of obtaining a borrower's ticket must apply to the Librarian for a guaranty form, and after having obtained the signature and address of a householder of the town, must leave the same with the Librarian. Householders may sign their own guaranty forms, but cannot be surety for more than six borrowers at the same time.

5.—The signature of guaranty forms must be understood to be an assent to these rules and regulations.

6.—Three clear days after the delivery of the guaranty form, the Librarian will issue a borrower's ticket to the applicant named therein, on satisfying himself as to the propriety of so doing.

7.—The guaranty shall remain in force for three years. If a guarantor withdraws his guarantee, or ceases to reside in the Borough, a new guaranty will be required.

8.—A guarantor may terminate his responsibility by giving one calendar month's notice in writing to the Librarian, and at the expiration of such notice, and upon the delivery to the Librarian of the borrower's ticket, all further liability under the guaranty shall cease, but such guaranty shall remain in force as to the liability incurred up to the expiration of such notice, and until the delivery of the borrower's ticket. On the termination of the responsibility of the guarantor, the borrower's ticket shall cease to be in force, and shall be delivered up to the Librarian to be cancelled.

9.—Change of residence of borrowers, or their guarantors, must be intimated to the Librarian within fourteen days of such change, under penalty of the forfeiture of the borrower's ticket.

10.—Borrowers tickets are not transferable, and must be renewed annually.

11.—A lost ticket can be replaced on payment of one penny, by a personal application at the Library.

12.—Borrowers leaving the district, or ceasing to use the Library, must send their tickets to the Librarian to be cancelled; otherwise, they and their guarantors will be held responsible for any books taken out with such ticket.

13.—Borrowers should ascertain from the indicator whether books are in before asking for the same.

14.—No person is allowed to pass within the counter under any pretext whatever, except members of the Corporation and Honorary Members of the Free Library Committee.

15.—No book is issued except in exchange for a borrower's ticket.

16.—Books cannot be exchanged on the day of issue.

17.—Fifteen days (days of issue and return included) are allowed for reading a book. If kept beyond that period a fine of one penny a week, or portion of a week, will be incurred, and the borrower's ticket will not be returned until the fine is paid. At the expiration of twenty-eight days from the date of issue, application will be made to the guarantor for a new copy, or its value, and the fine incurred.

18.—Borrowers who wish to retain books beyond the fifteen days may renew the same for seven days if they are not required by another reader. Such application for renewal must be made before the expiration of the fifteen days, and in every case the book must be brought or sent to the Library when the renewal is applied for.

19.—No more than one book will be issued to a borrower at the same time. Novels and romances in more than one volume to be in all cases considered as a single book.

20.—If a borrower finds difficulty in getting a certain book, he may leave with the Librarian a post card directed to himself. As soon as the book comes to the Library, the card will be posted to the Borrower, who must apply for the book the same day that he receives the card. Printed post cards may be had of the Librarian, one penny each.

21.—The last user of a book will be held responsible for any damage found in it, unless he or she has previously pointed out the damage to the Librarian. Torn covers, leaves folded, dirtied, or torn, pencil or ink marks, writings, drawings, etc., are damages, and will be assessed by the Librarian according to the value of the work. Parties refusing to pay damages will be excluded from the privileges of the Library.

22.—Books should be taken out and returned by the borrowers themselves wherever possible. No books will be issued to irresponsible messengers who are not competent to deliver their messages and take proper care of the books. The Librarian has power to refuse to issue books to any persons who he may deem unqualified to take due care of them.

23.—All books must be returned (irrespective of the time allowed for reading) on or before the Thursday preceding Wakes Saturday in every year, when the Library will be closed for stock-taking. Neglect to comply with this regulation will subject the borrower to the suspension or forfeiture of his ticket.

24.—Each person who wishes to obtain any book for reference must sign a "reader's application form" for each work, and such signature shall be taken as an assent to the rules and regulations of the Library.

25.—Certain works shall be issued only by the special permission of the Librarian.

26.—Copying will be permitted, but not tracing. The use of ink is not permitted. Readers must not soil nor injure the illustrations by fingering or laying their hands on them.

27.—Reference works must be consulted in the magazine room only.

28.—Intoxicated, dirty, disorderly, or offensive persons shall not be allowed on the premises.

29.—Dog are not allowed in the building.

30.—The Librarian (or, in his absence, the Assistant in charge) shall have power to refuse a book to any borrower who shall neglect or object to comply with the rules of the Library; but any person so refused shall have liberty to

appeal to the Library Committee, whose decision shall be final and binding.

NEWS AND READING ROOMS.

1.—The News and Reading Rooms shall be open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day except Sundays, New Year's Day, Good Friday, Friday in Whitsun Week, and such other days as the Committee may from time to time appoint.

2.—Intoxicated, dirty, disorderly, or otherwise offensive persons are not allowed in the rooms. Smoking and sleeping are prohibited, and refreshments are not to be consumed on the premises.

3.—No audible conversation is permitted in the rooms.

4.—No book, newspaper, magazine, or other article shall be removed from the rooms, or from the stand or table on which it is placed by the Officials, without the authority of the Librarian.

5.—Every reader is requested to keep clean any book, magazine, newspaper, or sheet that he may consult, and to avoid turning down leaves, marking with pen or pencil, or otherwise, defacing them. No ink to be used at any of the tables except the one set apart for writing only.

6.—The Librarian is directed to see that the rules and regulations are carried into effect, and has power to order

any person from the rooms who is not using them for the purpose for which they are intended.

7.—No person under the age of sixteen years shall be admitted to the rooms.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION

HEGINBOTTOM FREE LIBRARY.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LIBRARIAN,

FOR THE

Year ending March^x 18th, 1896.

Committee and Officers, 1895-6.

CHAIRMAN :

ALDERMAN ELY ANDREW.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR BROMLEY.

THE MAYOR.

ALDERMEN MARLAND, SIDDALL, AND WILSON.
COUNCILLORS COOKE, A. E. MELLOR, J. E. MELLOR,
PARK, POLLITT, AND J. B. POWNALL.

HONORARY MEMBERS :

REV. THOS. GREEN, M.A., MESSRS. W. J. ANDREW,
GEORGE PEARSON, ELI SHAW,
AND EDWARD STRINGER.

"BOOKS" SUB-COMMITTEE.

ALDERMAN ELY ANDREW. CHAIRMAN.

THE MAYOR,

COUNCILLORS BROMLEY, COOKE, J. E. MELLOR,
PARK, AND J. B. POWNALL,
MESSRS. GEORGE PEARSON, AND ELI SHAW.

CHIEF LIBRARIAN :—D. H. WADE.

SENIOR ASSISTANT :—A BAKER.

JUNIOR ASSISTANT :—J. RADCLIFFE.

CARETAKER :—JOHN HOLLINGWORTH.

REPORT
OF THE LIBRARIAN OF THE
HEGINBOTTOM FREE LIBRARY,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

To the Chairman and Members of the Free Library Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Report for the year ending March 18th, 1896.

STOCK.

The total number of volumes in the Lending and Reference Departments of the Library is now 13,663, shewing an increase of 559 for the year. This number, however, only represents the net increase, as worn out works in two or more volumes have, in many cases, been replaced by single volume publications, and others, which required re-binding, have been bound in one volume to save the expense of two or three bindings where one would suffice.

The actual number of volumes added to the Library during the year is 599, as will be seen from the Summary on page 14.

The replacement of incomplete, worn out, and dirty volumes, as predicted in the previous annual report, still absorbs a considerable amount of the funds. The number of replacements made during the year was 434, but, as a result of careful weeding, the general condition of the books, as regards binding and cleanliness, has considerably improved.

ISSUE OF BOOKS.

Although the mildness of the past winter lessened to a great extent the demand for books, the total issue from the Lending and Reference Departments was 61,600, and the daily average 216, shewing an increase of 6,958 in the issue, and 27 in the daily average.

The Reference Department has been much more frequently used by borrowers than it was formerly, as may be seen from the statistics on page 11, the number of volumes issued from this department being 6,316, as compared with 3,545 during the corresponding period last year.

HOW BOOKS ARE USED.

The books lent out for home reading, as well as the books issued from the Reference Department, are generally better used. A book mark is now placed in each book issued to borrowers, and it is hoped that the hints which are given thereon will induce some of the readers to be still more careful, and to assist the staff in discovering the persons who wilfully dirty, mark, tear, or otherwise damage the books.

FINES.

Overdue books are written for once a week, and, on the whole, readers are prompt in responding to the notices

requesting the return of the books and the payment of fines. The number of notices sent out during the year was 672. Though there is an increase of over £14 in the fines collected for retaining books beyond the specified period, this increase is not due to readers having become more dilatory in returning their books, but to the fact that the number of borrowers has been steadily increasing.

ADVICE CARDS.

The number of readers who avail themselves of the system of reserving books, by purchasing specially printed post cards, to be posted to them immediately the book they require is in the Library, is getting larger every day. The number of post cards sold for this purpose during the year was 367.

CATALOGUES.

In October, 1895, the price of the General Catalogue was reduced from two shillings to one shilling, with the result that the sale has considerably increased.

Early in March, 1896, the first Supplement to the General Catalogue of 1894 was published. It is printed in the same style as the General Catalogue, and sold at a penny. Three hundred readers have already purchased copies. It is intended, in future, to publish supplements every six months, as the lists of additions posted in the hall, if allowed to accumulate beyond that period, become so numerous that readers experience considerable difficulty in finding the books they require.

BOOKS FOR THE BLIND.

The books belonging to the Blind Society which were numbered and catalogued by you are still used very regularly. The record of the issue of these books is not included

in the Library Statistics, but is kept by Mr. Eccles, the Society's Teacher, who is a daily visitor to the Library. The Catalogues, which were given to the Society, have undoubtedly caused greater interest to be taken by the blind people in these books as well as facilitated reference to them.

JUVENILE DEPARTMENT.

It is intended, during the next year, to issue a printed list of the juvenile works already in the Library, as a basis for a future Juvenile Catalogue, and to purchase a few additions each month in order to gradually form a Juvenile Department. Special Tickets will be issued to boys and girls, between 14 and 16 years of age, to be used for this Department only.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Towards the close of 1895 the Sanitary Committee was requested to cause periodical lists of notified cases of infectious diseases to be sent to the Library, so that steps could be taken steps to avoid any risk of such diseases being transmitted from one house to another by means of the books. This request was willingly and immediately complied with. Weekly lists of notified cases are now sent to the Library by the Sanitary Superintendent, and I am empowered to refuse to issue books to readers who reside in infected houses, as well as to destroy books of the value of 5/- or under which are returned from such houses. Books of a greater value than 5/- are carefully disinfected before being replaced on the shelves. Since this rule came into force five volumes returned from infected houses have been destroyed, and nine disinfected.

RECEIPTS.

The total receipts show a decrease of £12 5s. 10d. as compared with last year, but this is due to the fact that the sale of catalogues and borrowers' tickets has not been so great as it naturally was at the re-opening of the Library.

The amount received for old papers is exactly the same as last year, while the increase in the receipts from fines and advice cards is £15 6s. 7d.

MAGAZINE ROOM.

The new racks, which afford accommodation for 80 more periodicals than there was room for before, have been placed in this room. The covers of all the magazines are numbered consecutively, as also are the places allotted to them in the racks and on the tables. An alphabetical index to the whole of the magazines and reviews in this room is hung near the entrance, and from this a reader, either inside or outside the room, can learn at a glance the exact position of the periodical he wishes to consult. Four extra tables and a further supply of stools have been placed along the walls immediately below the new racks, and all the stools have been fitted with noiseless rubber pads.

The heating coils have been removed from below the windows in this room, as the temperature was always too high, on account of the additional heat from the wall through which the furnace flues pass.

These improvements have considerably added to the comfort of the room, and its generally crowded state shews that they have been greatly appreciated.

There are now 129 magazines and reviews, 24 of which have been added during the year. The number of readers daily increases, and though the new arrangement of the papers prevents any confusion, the room is much too small. This is especially noticeable in the evenings, when the issue of books to readers who wish to consult them in this room has frequently to be stopped or it would become overcrowded.

“ BOOKS ” SUB-COMMITTEE.

A Sub-Committee has now been appointed to deal with the selection of all intended additions; with a view to ensuring that such may be of a more representative character, and properly suited to the requirements of the readers generally. This Sub-Committee has instructed me to prepare a report on the efficiency or otherwise of each department of the Library, so that additions may be made, as far as possible, to those classes of literature which are inadequately represented.

On the following pages will be found full details of the various Library statistics for the past year, as well as the totals for last year, to give some idea of the progress and increased efficiency of the Library.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. H. WADE.

Number of Volumes in Stock on March 18th, 1896.



LENDING DEPARTMENT:

Periodicals, &c.	745
Philosophy, Theology, &c. ...	500
Law, Politics and Commerce	292
Philology	54
Science, Art and Natural History	876
Biography, Geography, History, &c.	2334
Classical and Miscellaneous Literature	704
Poetry and Drama.....	480
Fiction	3384

 9369

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT	4294
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 TOTAL 13663

Lending Department.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1895. MONTH.	Periodicals, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, Geography, History, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average.
March	54	23	24	3	119	187	55	23	1940	2428	11	221
19th to 31st.												
April	133	65	27	21	195	348	88	48	3697	4622	24	192
May	110	69	27	7	207	291	98	51	3453	4313	27	159
June	99	37	17	15	152	236	66	38	3099	3759	23	163
July	114	43	15	5	189	259	75	50	3644	4394	27	163
August	33	9	5	2	54	76	23	13	1090	1305	11	119
1st to 14th.												
September	100	48	12	7	212	247	112	72	3398	4208	25	168
October	125	56	23	6	211	264	93	52	3348	4178	21	199
November	187	86	25	9	269	431	138	58	4616	5819	26	224
December	191	54	47	11	226	379	93	58	4081	5140	24	214
1896.												
January	186	87	43	8	278	435	142	59	4566	5804	26	223
February	169	56	37	11	264	451	117	67	4632	5804	25	232
March	120	34	19	8	164	299	71	35	2760	3510	15	234
1st to 18th.												
Totals	1621	667	321	113	2540	3903	1171	624	44324	55284	285	194
1894-5	1285	611	350	150	2500	3423	954	556	41268	51097	289	177

Reference Department.

(Giving the Monthly issue in each Class, the number of days the Library was open, Total No. of Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1895. MONTH,	Periodicals, Reports, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, History, etc.	Local and Miscellaneous	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average.
March	118	1	2	3	42	37	73	276	24	12
19th to 31st.										
April	140	—	4	2	19	12	35	212	11	19
May	97	14	5	—	51	29	99	295	27	11
June	48	7	6	2	35	32	68	198	23	9
July	162	7	12	3	55	22	91	352	27	13
August	52	4	—	1	17	16	23	113	11	10
1st to 15th.										
September	222	3	5	—	47	20	100	397	25	16
October	302	11	4	1	74	22	172	586	21	28
November	496	13	7	5	96	42	273	932	26	36
December	519	5	3	5	73	33	267	905	24	38
1896.										
January	595	5	6	1	43	41	124	815	26	31
February	498	7	8	3	58	61	84	719	25	29
March	315	5	—	4	141	9	42	516	15	34
1st to 18th.										
Totals	3564	82	62	30	751	376	1451	6316	285	22
1894-5	2369	55	31	36	436	201	417	3545	289	12

Issues of Lending and Reference Departments combined.

1895. MONTH.	Periodicals, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics and Commerce.	Philology, and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, Geography, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Average, Daily
March.....	194	23	28	5	138	199	90	23	1940	2640	11	240
19th to 31st.												
April	251	66	29	24	237	385	161	48	3697	4898	24	204
May	207	83	32	7	258	320	197	51	3453	4608	27	170
June	147	44	23	17	187	268	134	38	3099	3957	23	172
July	276	50	27	8	244	281	166	50	3644	4746	27	176
August	85	13	5	3	71	92	46	13	1090	1418	11	129
1st to 15th												
September	322	51	17	7	259	267	212	72	3398	4605	25	184
October	427	67	27	7	285	286	265	52	3348	4764	21	227
November	683	99	32	14	365	473	411	58	4616	6751	26	260
December	710	59	50	16	299	412	360	58	4081	6045	24	252
1896.												
January	781	92	49	9	321	476	266	59	4566	6619	26	254
February	667	63	45	14	322	512	201	67	4632	6523	25	261
March	435	39	19	12	305	308	113	35	2760	4026	15	268
1st to 18th,												
Totals.....	5185	749	383	143	3291	4279	2622	624	44324	61600	285	216
1894-5	3654	666	381	186	2936	3624	1371	556	41268	54642	289	189

An Account and Classification of Receipts.

1895. MONTH.	Fines.	Borrowers' Tickets.	Catalogues.	Old Papers.	Post Cards for Reserving Books.	Total Receipts.
April	£ s. d. 3 3 2	£ s. d. 0 7 2	£ s. d. 0 4 0	£ s. d. 0 0 0	£ s. d. 0 0 0	£ s. d. 3 14 4
May	2 4 4	0 5 5	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	2 9 9
June	3 15 0	0 3 10	0 0 0	0 10 7	0 4 8	4 14 1
July	3 17 8	0 5 5	0 6 0	0 12 0	0 0 0	5 1 1
August	3 0 4	0 2 4	0 2 0	0 1 0	0 0 0	3 5 8
1st to 15th.						
September	1 19 10	0 6 4	0 2 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	2 8 2
October	1 7 10	0 9 0	0 9 0	0 6 0	0 4 7	2 16 5
November	1 6 1	0 8 8	1 10 0	0 0 0	0 5 3	3 10 0
December	1 14 5	0 7 5	0 16 0	0 0 0	0 4 7	3 2 5
1896.						
January	3 6 6	0 9 3	0 18 0	2 19 11	0 3 8	7 17 4
February	2 10 7	0 6 2	0 12 0	0 11 0	0 4 4	4 4 1
March	1 8 11	0 8 8	0 19 3	0 2 7	0 3 6	3 2 11
Totals.....	£29 14 8	£3 19 8	£5 18 3	£5 3 1	£1 10 7	£46 6 3
1894-5	£15 0 9	£10 8 4	£27 2 0	£5 3 1	£0 17 11	£58 12 1

General Summary.

LENDING AND REFERENCE DEPARTMENTS.

Volumes presented.....	81
Volumes purchased:—	
Replacements	434
Additions	511
Volumes of Societies' Publications obtained by Subscription	7
Volumes bound	217
Volumes in Stock	13663
Total number of Issues	61600
Average Daily Issue	216
Number of Borrowers enrolled.....	3452
Tickets Cancelled	233
Number of Tickets in force	3219
Overdue books written for	672
Volumes returned from Infected Houses—Destroyed.....	5
" " " Disinfected....	9
Books lost and replaced by borrowers	3

GENERAL DATA.

Population	40463
Rateable Value	£153878
Public Libraries' Act adopted	1880
News Room (Town Hall) opened	1st August, 1881
Library (Town Hall) opened by the Mayoress (Mrs. Ely Andrew).....	25th March, 1882
Library (Town Hall) closed preparatory to the re- cataloguing and removing of books to the Hegin- bottom Free Library	22nd April, 1893
Heginbottom Technical School and Free Library formally opened by the Mayor (Alderman Ely Andrew) and Alderman Thos. Heginbottom.	1st July, 1893
Books removed from Town Hall to new Building, December, 1893	
News Room opened	1st January, 1894
Issue of books re-commenced.....	19th March, 1894

DONORS OF BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, &c..

FREE LIBRARY.

YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1895.

v. Volumes, r. Reports, p. Pamphlets, n Numbers.

Anthropological Institute	4	v
Board of Trade	5	r
Brewster, F. C. Esq. (the author).....	1	v
Bridge House Estates' Committee	1	v
British Museum.....	14	v
Browne, Messrs. T. B. Ltd.	1	v
Civil Engineers, Institution of	1	v
Co-operative Society, Ashton-under-Lyne	3	v
Commissioner of Labour	4	r
Congregational Union	2	v
Dale, Mrs., "Essdee" (the authoress)	2	v
Dodgson, A., Esq.	16	v
Durham University	2	v
Foster, Thomas, Esq.....	1 v. 29	n
Gibson, Louisa (the authoress)	3	v
Harrison, Messrs. & Co.	1	v
Heginbottom, Alderman T.	2	v
Irish Unionist Alliance	2	v

Jamaica Institute	1 v
Manchester Statistical Society	1 v
Mason, Ernest, Esq. (the author)	1 v
Mears, Mrs. A. Garland (the authoress)	1 v
Medical Officer of Health (Lancashire)	1 v
Neal John, Esq. (compiler)	2 v
Park, Councillor A.	13 v
Paton, James, Esq. (the author)	2 v
Rationalist Press Committee	3 v
Royal Agricultural Society... ..	5 v
Sell, Henry, Esq.	2 v
Smithsonian Institute, U.S.A.	2 v
Stock, Elliot, Esq.....	1 v
Town Clerk (Guildhall)	1 v
University Correspondence College ...	1 v
Voysey, Rev. C. (the author)	3 v
Whiteley, Herbert, Esq., M.P.	1 v
Whittingham Messrs. & Co.	1 v
Wrigley, G. F., Esq. M.A.	1 v

Annual Reports from the following Libraries: Aberdeen, Aston Manor, Barrow-in-Furness, Battersea, Belfast, Birkenhead, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bolton, Bradford, Brentford, Brighton, Bristol, Cambridge, Cardiff, Carlisle, Chiswick, Clerkenwell, Derby, Ealing, Falmouth, Folkestone, Glasgow, Halifax, Hammersmith, Handsworth, Hanley, Hindley, Holborn, Hove, Hyde, Kidderminster, Kingston-on-Thames, Leamington, Leeds, Leyton, Longton, Loughborough, Manchester, Plymouth, Poplar, Runcorn, St. Giles, St. Helens, Sheffield, Smethwick,

South Shields, Southwark (St. Saviour's), Southwark (Christ Church), West Bromwich, West Ham, Westminster, Widnes, Willesden, Wolverhampton.

NEWS AND MAGAZINE ROOMS.

Church of Christ.....	"Bible Advocate."
Colbeck, George, Esq.	"Two Worlds."
Co-operative Society. Working Men's	"Co-operative News."
Green, Rev. Thomas, M.A.	"Herald of Peace."
Moss, William, Esq.	"Naturalist."
New Church Society ...	"New Church Magazine."
Pownall, Councillor J. B.	"National Church."
Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children	"Child's Guardian."

Also the Newspapers, &c. marked with an asterisk in the following list, which are presented by the Publishers.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, PERIODICALS
AND REVIEWS, SUPPLIED TO THE NEWS
AND READING ROOMS.

* Those papers marked with an asterisk are presented.

DAILY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Evening Reporter	London Daily Telegraph
	„ Morning Post
Ashton-under-Lyne Evening Standard	„ „ Advertiser
	„ Times
Daily Graphic	Manchester Courier
Freeman's Journal	„ Evening Mail
Glasgow Herald	„ Evening News
Leeds Mercury	„ Guardian
Liverpool Courier	Pall Mall Gazette
Liverpool Daily Post	Scotsman
Lloyd's List	Sheffield Daily Telegraph
London Daily Chronicle	St. James's Gazette
„ „ News	Yorkshire Post

WEEKLY.

Amateur Photographer	Builder
Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter	* Canadian Gazette
Ashton-under-Lyne Herald	Cassell's Saturday Journal
Athenæum	Chambers's Journal
Boys' Own Paper	Christian World
Broad Arrow	* Civil Service Aspirant

WEEKLY—*Continued.*

Colliery Guardian	Literary World
* Co-operative News	* Local Government Journal
Cotton Factory Times	London Guardian
* Cycle	Manchester City News
* Cyclers' News	Manchester Courier
* Cycling.	Manchester Weekly Times
* Drapers' Record	Nature
* Drapery World	Oldham Chronicle
Economist	* Phonetic Journal
Education	Publishers' Circular
Engineer	Punch
England	Railway Review
English Mechanic	* Rural World
Era	Saturday Review
Field	School Guardian
Fun	Schoolmaster
Gardeners' Chronicle	Schoolmistress
Gentlewoman	Speaker
Graphic	Spectator
* Grocers' Review	* Spinning Wheel
Illustrated London News	Tablet
Independent and	Textile Mercury
Nonconformist	Truth
Irish Catholic	* Two Worlds
* Iron and Coal Trades	* University Correspondent
Review	Volunteer Service Gazette
* Journal of the Society of	* Warehouseman and Draper
Arts	* Wheeler
Judy	* Wheeling
Labour News	World.
Land and Water	

MONTHLY.

* Animals Friend	Bookman
Antiquary	Bookseller
Army List	British Workman
Band of Hope Review	Cassells' Family Magazine
* Bible Advocate	Century
Blackwoods' Magazine	* Child's Guardian
Contemporary Review	* Musical Herald
Cornhill Magazine	Musical Times
* Cottager and Artizan	* National Church
* Educational Times	* Naturalist.
English Illustrated Magazine	Nineteenth Century
* Foresters' Miscellany	* Old Paths
Fortnightly Review	* Our Own Gazette
Gentleman's Magazine	Pearson's Magazine
Good Words	* Positivist Review
Harper's Monthly	* Protestant Observer
* Herald of Peace	* Return of the Deaths of
* Independent Methodist	Seamen
* Inventor's Review	Review of Reviews
Investor's Manual	Science Gossip
Knowledge	* Season
* Labour Gazette	Strand Magazine
Leisure Hour	Temple Bar
Liberator	Textile Manufacturer
Longman's Magazine	Textile Recorder
* Machinery Market	* Vaccination Inquirer
Macmillan's Magazine	* Vegetarian Messenger
Magazine of Art	Westminster Review
* Manchester Faces and Places	* Zoophilist

QUARTERLY.

Dublin Review	Quarterly Review
Edinburgh Review	Post Office Guide
* Emigrant	Statistical Journal
Historical Review	

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

Bradshaw's Guide	* London and South Western
* Caledonian	* London, Brighton, and South Coast
* Great Eastern	* London, Chatham, and Dover
* Great Northern	* Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire
* Great Western	* Midland
* Lancashire and Yorkshire	* South Eastern
* London and North Western	

DIRECTORIES.

Kelly's Post Office London Directory
Kelly's Directory of Cheshire
Kelly's West Riding of Yorkshire
Slater's Directory of Lancashire County
Slater's Directory of Manchester and Liverpool
* Advertiser's A. B. C. Directory
* Sell's Directory of the World's Press
* Stubbs' Directory
* Commercial Directory

FILES OF NEWSPAPERS.

The "Times"	from 1881 to date.
The "Manchester Guardian"	„ 1883 „
The "Manchester Courier"	„ 1887 „
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter"	„ 1860 „
The "Stalybridge Herald"	for 1888.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Herald"	from 1889 to date.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Standard,"	1860-66, 1870-83, and 1885.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne News"	from 1868-1873.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION.

HEGINBOTTOM FREE LIBRARY,

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

LIBRARY.

1.—The Librarian shall have general charge of the Library, and be responsible for the safe keeping of the books and all other property belonging thereto.

2.—Library Hours, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., every week-day except Tuesday, when it is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Library is closed on Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Good Friday, Friday in Whitsun Week, Bank Holidays, Wakes Week and the week following (for stocktaking and cleaning), and such other days as the Committee may from time to time appoint

3.—Every person above the age of 16 years who is either resident or rated within the Municipal Borough, shall be entitled to borrow books from the Library on obtaining a borrower's ticket, so long as such ticket shall remain in force.

4.—Every person desirous of obtaining a borrower's ticket must apply to the Librarian for a guaranty form, and after having obtained the signature and address of a householder of the town, must leave the same with the Librarian. Householders may sign their own guaranty forms, but cannot be surety for more than six borrowers at the same time.

5.—The signature of guaranty forms must be understood to be an assent to these rules and regulations.

6.—Three clear days after the delivery of the guaranty form, the Librarian will issue a borrower's ticket to the applicant named therein, on satisfying himself as to the propriety of so doing.

7.—The guaranty shall remain in force for three years. If a guarantor withdraws his guarantee, or ceases to reside in the Borough, a new guaranty will be required.

8.—A guarantor may terminate his responsibility by giving one calendar month's notice in writing to the Librarian, and at the expiration of such notice, and upon the delivery to the Librarian of the borrower's ticket, all further liability under the guaranty shall cease, but such guaranty shall remain in force as to the liability incurred up to the expiration of such notice, and until the delivery of the borrower's ticket. On the termination of the responsibility of the guarantor, the borrower's ticket shall cease to be in force, and shall be delivered up to the Librarian to be cancelled.

9.—Change of residence of borrowers, or their guarantors, must be intimated to the Librarian within fourteen days of such change, under penalty of the forfeiture of the borrower's ticket.

10.—Borrowers tickets are not transferable, and must be renewed annually.

11.—A lost ticket can be replaced on payment of one penny, by a personal application at the Library.

12.—Borrowers leaving the district, or ceasing to use the Library, must send their tickets to the Librarian to be cancelled; otherwise, they and their guarantors will be held responsible for any books taken out with such ticket.

13.—Borrowers should ascertain from the indicator whether books are in before asking for the same.

14.—No person is allowed to pass within the counter under any pretext whatever, except members of the Corporation and Honorary Members of the Free Library Committee.

15.—No book is issued except in exchange for a borrower's ticket.

16.—Books cannot be exchanged on the day of issue.

17.—Fifteen days (days of issue and return included) are allowed for reading a book. If kept beyond that period a fine of one penny a week, or portion of a week, will be incurred, and the borrower's ticket will not be returned until the fine is paid. At the expiration of twenty-eight days from the date of issue, application will be made to the guarantor for a new copy, or its value, and the fine incurred.

18.—Borrowers who wish to retain books beyond the fifteen days may renew the same for seven days if they are not required by another reader. Such application for renewal must be made before the expiration of the fifteen days, and in every case the book must be brought or sent to the Library when the renewal is applied for.

19.—No more than one book will be issued to a borrower at the same time. Novels and romances in more than one volume to be in all cases considered as a single book.

20.—If a borrower finds difficulty in getting a certain book, he may leave with the Librarian a post card directed to himself. As soon as the book comes to the Library, the card will be posted to the Borrower, who must apply for the book the same day that he receives the card. Printed post cards may be had of the Librarian, one penny each.

21.—The last user of a book will be held responsible for any damage found in it, unless he or she has previously pointed out the damage to the Librarian. Torn covers, leaves folded, dirtied, or torn, pencil or ink marks, writings, drawings, etc., are damages, and will be assessed by the Librarian according to the value of the work. Parties refusing to pay damages will be excluded from the privileges of the Library.

22.—Books should be taken out and returned by the borrowers themselves wherever possible. No books will be issued to irresponsible messengers who are not competent to deliver their messages and take proper care of the books. The Librarian has power to refuse to issue books to any persons whom he may deem unqualified to take due care of them.

23.—All books must be returned (irrespective of the time allowed for reading) on or before the Thursday preceding Wakes Saturday in every year, when the Library will be closed for stock-taking. Neglect to comply with this regulation will subject the borrower to the suspension or forfeiture of his ticket.

24.—Each person who wishes to obtain any book for reference must sign a "reader's application form" for each work, and such signature shall be taken as an assent to the rules and regulations of the Library.

25.—Certain works shall be issued only by the special permission of the Librarian.

26.—Copying will be permitted, but not tracing. The use of ink is not permitted. Readers must not soil nor injure the illustrations by fingering or laying their hands on them.

27.—Reference works must be consulted in the magazine room only.

28.—Intoxicated, dirty, disorderly, or offensive persons shall not be allowed on the premises.

29.—Dogs are not allowed in the building.

30.—The Librarian (or, in his absence, the Assistant in charge) shall have power to refuse a book to any borrower who shall neglect or object to comply with the rules of the Library; but any person so refused shall have liberty to appeal to the Library Committee, whose decision shall be final and binding.

NEWS AND READING ROOMS.

1.—The News and Reading Rooms shall be open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day except Sundays, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Good Friday, Friday in Whitsun Week, and such other days as the Committee may from time to time appoint.

2.—Intoxicated, dirty, disorderly, or otherwise offensive persons are not allowed in the rooms. Smoking and sleeping are prohibited, and refreshments are not to be consumed on the premises.

3.—No audible conversation is permitted in the rooms.

4.—No book, newspaper, magazine, or other article shall be removed from the rooms, or from the stand or table on which it is placed by the Officials, without the authority of the Librarian.

5.—Every reader is requested to keep clean any book, magazine, newspaper, or sheet that he may consult, and to avoid turning down leaves, marking with pen or pencil, or otherwise, defacing them. No ink to be used at any of the tables except the one set apart for writing only.

6.—The Librarian is directed to see that the rules and regulations are carried into effect, and has power to order any person from the rooms who is not using them for the purpose for which they are intended.

7.—No person under the age of sixteen years shall be admitted to the rooms.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION

HEGINBOTTOM FREE LIBRARY.

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LIBRARIAN,

FOR THE

Year ending March 18th, 1899.

Committee and Officers, 1898-9.

CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR F. W. BROMLEY.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR J. B. POWNALL.

THE MAYOR.

ALDERMEN MARLAND, SIDDALL, WATERHOUSE,
AND WILSON.

COUNCILLORS J. ANDREW, MASON, PARK, PEARSON,
POLLITT, REYNER AND YOXALL.

HONORARY MEMBERS:

REV. J. M. CRAVEN AND EDWARD STRINGER, Esq.

"BOOKS" SUB-COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR F. W. BROMLEY.

THE MAYOR.

COUNCILLORS PARK, PEARSON, J. B. POWNALL,
REYNER AND REV. J. M. CRAVEN.

SECRETARY AND CHIEF LIBRARIAN:—D. H. WADE.

SUB-LIBRARIAN:—A. BAKER.

ASSISTANTS:—T. GREEN AND W. GREEN.

CARETAKER:—JOHN HOLLINGWORTH.

REPORT

OF THE LIBRARIAN OF THE

HEGINBOTTOM FREE LIBRARY,

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

To the Chairman and Members of the Free Library Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Fifth Annual Report on the work of the Library during the year ending March 18th, 1899.

The number of volumes issued is considerably less than last year, and this is mainly attributable to the establishment of a Circulating Library in the town, the growth of cycling, and the smaller use made of extra tickets during the year. Although the issue shows a decrease of 11,247, it should be remembered that the increase of last year's issue over the previous one was phenomenal, and therefore the decrease seems much greater than it would have done if the annual increase of the previous four years had been more uniform. Of the decrease in the issue 75 per cent. consists of works of fiction, and the other 25 per cent. is made up of a decrease of 1805 in the issue of non-fictional works in the Lending Department and 987 in the Reference Department. As will be seen from the tabulated statistics on page 10 there are already signs of recovery, as 343 more volumes were issued from the Lending and Reference Departments between March 1st and 18th, 1899, than were issued during the corresponding period of the previous year.

The number of works of fiction issued during the year is 50,245, or 68 per cent. of the total issue, a decrease of one per cent. as compared with the previous year, showing an increasing demand for non-fictional works of educational value.

In 1894-5 the percentage of fiction issued was 75

In 1895-6	”	”	”	72
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In 1896-7	”	”	”	71
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In 1897-8	”	”	”	69
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In 1898-9	”	”	”	68
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The decrease in the percentage of fiction issued is greatly due to the continued efforts of the Books Sub-Committee to provide as many as possible of the best books on current topics without neglecting the wants of readers who prefer lighter forms of literature.

Much care has been exercised in the selection of books for replacement and rebinding. The numbers replaced and rebound are respectively 27 and 18 less than last year. Very few indeed of the books bound direct from the sheet in flexible binding have required repairing, and none of them have had to be replaced, which conclusively proves the economy of the system adopted. During the year 3747 volumes have been repaired by the staff, but these consisted principally of books in the buckram and loose bindings purchased previous to the adoption of flexible binding.

The total number of volumes in the Library including books for the Blind is now 16,778. The number of volumes presented and purchased during the year is 1,423. Of this number 109 works purchased in single volume form have replaced works which were originally in two and three volumes; many of the volumes presented have been placed in the Magazine and Reading Room and not added to the Library: and, after making deductions for these and the out of print books and withdrawals, there is a nett increase in the stock of 917 volumes.

Among the many works purchased during the year which deserve special mention, are the "Dictionary of National Biography" the compilation of which was commenced some fifteen years ago and is now nearing completion, the "New English Dictionary" and the "English Dialect Dictionary" all of which rank among the finest literary productions of recent years and will doubtless prove valuable additions to the Reference Department of the Library.

Post Cards for overdue books sent out during the year amounted to 1,449. The number of post cards sent to borrowers who paid a penny for reserving books in great demand was 250.

The monthly lists of additions which are now printed in smaller type, on a single sheet, have been issued regularly throughout the year, and seem to be increasing in popularity. A fourth Supplemental Catalogue has been published containing all the new books added to the Library up to and including November last, and has had a steady sale. The decrease in the receipts for Catalogues is to be accounted for by the decrease in the sale of the General Catalogue, very few of which are now asked for, as the Supplemental Catalogues, giving all the recent additions, are sold at one penny each. Seeing that it will be necessary in a few years to print a new General Catalogue it would perhaps be wise to put aside a small sum each year for for this purpose, as suggested in last year's report.

One of the most encouraging features of the year's work has been the increased demand for Juvenile Literature, and the effect of this demand on the future working of the Library is likely to fully justify the reduction of the minimum age limit to ten years. Great care is exercised in the selection of books for this Department, to which a few volumes are added each month, and it is a pleasure to see how eagerly the children apply for

the new books. The Statistics of the issue of Juvenile works are included in the issues of Fiction, on p.p. 8 and 10, but in all future Monthly and Annual Reports the issues will be given separately.

The Magazine and Reading Room continues to be as popular as ever, and the accommodation is quite inadequate. The provision of a large General Magazine and News Room, with tables set apart for Ladies, and a Juvenile Reading Room (the latter to be opened after school hours and on Saturdays) would greatly increase the popularity of the institution.

The erection of the Screen in the Entrance Hall will, when finished, do much to improve the general comfort of the readers, and lessen the noise occasioned by the Technical School students entering and leaving the various Class Rooms.

I feel that it would be discourteous on my part to conclude this report without a word of thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Committee for their ready support at all times in carrying out any little improvements suggested for the better working of the Library, and to the members of the staff for the energy and zeal they have displayed in the administrative work of the Library.

Appended are the usual tables of Statistics, giving the issues in each Department and other details of the work of the Library.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. H. WADE.

Number of Volumes in Stock on March 18th, 1899.

Lending Department.

Periodicals, &c.	835
Philosophy, Theology, &c.	593
Law, Politics and Commerce	374
Philology	68
Science, Art and Natural History	1363
Biography, Geography, History, &c.	2837
Classical and Miscellaneous Literature	810
Poetry and Drama.....	573
Fiction and Juvenile Literature	4340
Books for the Blind.....	364
	<hr/>
	12157
REFERENCE DEPARTMENT	4621
	<hr/>
TOTAL	16778
	<hr/>

Lending Department.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1898. MONTH.	Periodicals, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology, and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, Geography, History, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	* Daily Average.
March 19th to 31st.	66	43	15	8	153	210	41	48	2233	2817	11	313
April	173	70	42	10	270	326	93	42	4960	5986	24	299
May	172	44	43	12	206	282	91	53	4909	5812	26	264
June	176	77	45	8	219	266	74	49	4329	5243	24	262
July	182	45	43	9	215	237	68	47	4303	5149	26	234
August	105	16	19	36	149	115	29	31	2106	2606	12	261
2nd to 15th. September..... 5th to 30th.	141	52	31	13	326	262	53	25	3352	4255	23	224
October	188	51	24	3	339	364	70	42	4370	5451	26	248
November	180	76	33	12	340	356	103	85	4304	5489	26	250
December	114	53	27	3	284	295	79	45	4029	4929	25	235
1899. January..... February	179	43	34	1	282	283	75	55	3893	4845	25	231
March	141	51	25	5	287	302	81	63	4169	5124	24	256
1st to 18th.	140	40	20	7	265	301	69	42	3288	4172	16	298
Totals, 1898-9	1957	661	401	127	3335	3599	926	627	50245	61878	288	256
Totals, 1897-8	2590	737	485	145	3506	4096	1198	681	58700	72138	289	249

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

Reference Department.

Giving the Monthly issue in each Class, the number of Days the Library was open, Total number of Vols. Issued and Daily Average.

1898. MONTH.	Periodicals, Reports, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, History, etc.	Local and Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days Open.	* Daily Average.
March.....	160	—	—	4	397	14	5	580	11	64
19th to 31st										
April.....	325	—	2	6	873	10	8	1224	24	61
May.....	348	4	1	5	1058	10	21	1447	26	66
June.....	167	—	7	1	894	16	11	1096	24	55
July.....	202	—	2	19	900	27	24	1174	26	53
August.....	105	6	13	—	17	14	11	166	12	17
2nd to 15th										
September.....	171	1	1	1	184	22	29	409	23	22
5th to 30th.										
October.....	270	4	4	—	586	45	126	1035	26	47
November.....	228	2	2	3	715	52	104	1106	26	50
December.....	208	1	3	—	716	24	27	979	25	47
1899.										
January.....	218	1	—	—	760	8	6	993	25	47
February.....	201	4	3	2	669	11	6	896	24	45
March.....	171	2	6	1	553	39	24	776	16	55
1st to 18th.										
Totals 1898-99	2774	25	44	42	8302	292	402	11881	288	49
Totals 1897-98	3331	32	65	69	8657	210	504	12868	289	45

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

Issues of Lending and Reference Departments combined

1899. MONTH.	Periodicals, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics and Commerce.	Philology, and Literary History.	Science, Art, and Natural History.	Biography, Geography, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average. *
March.....	226	43	15	12	550	224	46	48	2233	3397	11	377
19th to 31st.												
April	498	70	44	16	1143	336	101	42	4960	7210	24	360
May	520	48	44	17	1264	292	112	53	4909	7259	26	330
June	343	77	52	9	1113	282	85	49	4329	6339	24	317
July	384	45	45	28	1115	264	92	47	4303	6323	26	287
August	210	22	32	36	166	129	40	31	2106	2772	12	277
2nd to 15th												
September	312	53	32	14	510	284	82	25	3352	4664	23	245
5th to 30th.												
October	458	55	28	3	925	409	196	42	4370	6486	26	295
November	408	78	35	15	1055	408	207	85	4304	6595	26	300
December	322	54	30	3	1000	319	106	45	4029	5908	25	281
1899.												
January	397	44	34	1	1042	291	81	55	3893	5838	25	278
February	342	55	28	7	956	313	87	63	4169	6020	24	301
March	311	42	26	8	798	340	93	42	3288	4948	16	354
1st to 18th.												
Totals, 1898-9	4731	686	445	169	11637	3891	1328	627	50245	73759	288	305
Totals, 1897-8	5921	769	550	214	12163	4306	1702	681	58700	85006	289	294

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

An Account and Classification of Receipts.

1898. MONTH.	Fines.	Borrowers' Tickets.	Catalogues.	Old Papers.	Post Cards for Reserving Books.	Total Receipts.
April	£ s. d. 2 18 0	£ s. d. 0 7 4	£ s. d. 0 7 2	£ s. d. 0 3 6	£ s. d. 0 0 0	£ s. d. 3 16 0
May	2 6 4	0 6 4	0 3 2	0 3 0	0 4 2	3 3 0
June	2 4 2	0 6 2	0 4 1	0 0 0	0 0 0	2 14 5
July	2 10 8	0 7 0	0 3 7	0 2 6	0 4 2	3 7 11
August	2 10 1	0 5 7	0 1 10	0 0 0	0 0 0	2 17 6
2nd to 15th. September	0 8 2	0 9 7	0 5 3	0 0 0	0 0 0	1 3 0
5th to 30th. October	2 0 0	0 6 5	0 9 4	0 0 0	0 4 2	2 19 11
November	1 18 8	0 16 10	0 10 6	0 0 0	0 0 0	3 6 0
December	2 2 6	0 7 1	0 6 3	0 0 0	0 0 0	2 15 0
1899. January	3 0 3	0 10 0	0 5 7	0 1 6	0 0 0	3 17 4
February	1 15 0	0 5 6	0 9 3	0 11 0	0 4 2	3 4 11
March	1 15 0	0 5 6	0 4 1	3 6 0	0 4 2	6 7 7
Totals, 1898-9	£26 0 4	£4 14 8	£3 10 1	£4 7 6	£1 0 10	£39 13 5
Totals, 1897-8	£24 10 11	£4 16 1	£5 10 5	£2 19 9	£1 8 3	£39 5 5

General Summary.

Lending and Reference Departments.

Volumes presented.....	254
Volumes purchased:—	
Replacements	131
Additions	930
Volumes of Societies' Publications obtained by	
Subscription	9
Volumes bound	62
Volumes in Stock	16778
Total number of Issues	73759
Average Daily Issue	305
Number of Borrowers enrolled.....	5624
Tickets Cancelled	923
Number of Tickets in force	4701
Overdue books written for	1449
Volumes returned from Infected Houses—Destroyed.....	4
" " " Disinfected...	0
Books lost and replaced by borrowers	5
Books Missing	6
Books repaired by Staff during the year	3747

General Data.

Population (Census 1891)	40463
Rateable Value	£160,943
Public Libraries' Act adopted	1880
News Room (Town Hall) opened	1st August, 1881
Library (Town Hall) opened by the Mayoress (Mrs. Ely Andrew).....	25th March, 1882
Library (Town Hall) closed preparatory to the re- cataloguing and removing of books to the Hegin- bottom Free Library	22nd April, 1893
Heginbottom Technical School and Free Library formally opened by the Mayor (Alderman Ely Andrew) and Alderman Thos. Heginbottom,1st July, 1893	
Books removed from Town Hall to new Building, <div style="text-align: right;">December, 1893</div>	
News Room opened	1st January, 1894
Issue of books re-commenced.....	19th March, 1894
Juvenile Department opened.....	14th May, 1896

Donors of Books, Pamphlets, &c.,

FREE LIBRARY.

Year ending 31st December, 1898.

v. Volumes. r. Reports. p. pamphlets.

Agent General for Queensland	2	r	4	p
Agent General for West Australia	2	v	1	p
Anthropological Institute	3	v		
Ashton-under-Lyne Co-operative Society	2	v	2	r
Beardoe-Grundy, J. Esq.	9	v		
Beddows, H. T., Esq.	1	p		
Bower, Hubert, Esq. (author)	2	v		
British Museum Trustees	4	v		
Brinsmead, Edgar, Esq. (author)	1	v		
Browne, Messrs. T. B., Ltd, (publishers)	1	v		
Canadian Government Agent.....	1	v		
Coe, Rev. C. C. (author)	1	v		
Commissioner for Labour	5	r		
Comptroller of Patents	138	v		
Congregational Union	1	v		
Cook, Lady (author).. ..	1	v		
Currie, Messrs., Sir Donald & Co.	2	v		
Dougal, Messrs. F. H., & Co. (compilers).....	1	v		
Durham University College	1	v		

Forrest, Right Hon Sir John.....	1 p
Friends Tract Association	1 v
Gerrard, J. Esq	1 r
Hime, Lieut-Colonel H. W. L. (author).....	1 p
London Directory Co. (publishers)	1 v
London University College.....	1 v
Manchester Statistical Society	1 r
May, William, Esq. (compiler)	1 v
Mawson, Swan & Morgan, Messrs. (publishers)	2 v
Medical Officer of Health (Lancashire)	1 r
Methuen, Messrs., & Co. (publishers)	1 v
Neal, John, Esq. (compiler).....	2 v
North British Association of Gas Managers	1 v
Peck, W. E., Esq. (publisher)	1 v
Riley-Smith, H. H., Esq.....	2 v
Royal Agricultural Society	4 v
Russell, W. M. Esq. (author).....	1 v
Saunders, William, Esq.	1 r
Shaxby, W. I., Esq. (author)	1 v
Smithsonian Institute, U.S.A.	1 r
Stephens, W. W., Esq. (author)	1 v
Stubbs' Publishing Co., Ltd. (publishers)	1 v
Sutton, Messrs. & Sons	1 v
Taylor, Sedley, Esq. (author).....	1 v
Tebb, William, Esq. (author)	1 v
Tonge, Thomas, Esq. (author)	1 v
Waterhouse, Mr. Alderman	1 v
Whiteley, H., Esq., M.P.	3 v 19 r 8 p
Williams & Norgate, Messrs. (publishers).....	1 v
Wynne, Rev. W. E.	4 v 1 r

Annual Reports from the following Libraries: Aberdeen, Auckland (New Zealand), Ayr, Barrow-in-Furness, Battersea, Birmingham, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bolton, Bootle, Bradford, Brentford, Brighton, Bromley, Buxton, Cambridge, Cardiff, Carlisle, Cheltenham, Chiswick, Clapham, Clerkenwell, Clitheroe, Colchester, Cork, Cripplegate Institute, Dukinfield, Dundee, Ealing, Eastbourne, Derby, Dewsbury, Doncaster, Falmouth, Folkestone, Fulham, Gosport and Alverstoke, Great Yarmouth, Hammersmith, Hanley, Hindley, Holborn, Holyhead, Hove, Hyde, Kettering, Kidderminster, Kilburn, Kingston-upon-Hull, Kingston-upon-Thames, Leamington, Leeds, Leek, Leigh, Leyton, Lincoln, Liverpool, Longton, Loughborough, Manchester, Middlesborough, Newark-on-Trent, Norwich, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Oldham Lyceum, Penarth, Plymouth, Poplar, Portsmouth, Preston, Reading, Richmond (Surrey), Rochdale, Rotherhithe, Runcorn, St. George (Hanover Square), St. Giles, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Scranton, U.S.A., Sheffield, Shoreditch, Smethwick, Southampton, Southport, South Shields, Southwark (St. Saviour's), Stafford, Stirlings' and Glasgow, Stoke Newington, Toronto, Twickenham, Walsall, Walthamstow, West Bromwich, West Ham, West Hartlepool, Widnes, Wigan, Willesden Green, Wimbledon, Wolverhampton and York.

NEWS AND MAGAZINE ROOMS.

Ashton-under-Lyne and District

United Temperance Association "Comrades."

Blackpool Public Library Committee "Blackpool Gazette" and
"Blackpool Times."

Church of Christ..... "Bible Advocate."

Colbeck, George, Esq. "Two Worlds."

Co-operative Society, Working Men's "Co-operative News."

Moss, William, Esq. "Naturalist."

New Church Society	"New Church Magazine."
Pownall, Mr. Councillor J. B.	"National Church."
Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children	"Child's Guardian."

Also the Newspapers, &c. marked with an asterisk in the following list, which are presented by the Publishers.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, PERIODICALS
AND REVIEWS, SUPPLIED TO THE NEWS
AND READING ROOMS.

* Those papers marked with an asterisk are presented.

DAILY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Evening	London Times
Reporter, 2 copies	Manchester Courier, 3 copies
Birmingham Daily Post	Manchester Evening Chronicle,
Daily Graphic	2 copies
Freeman's Journal	Manchester Evening Mail, 2
Leeds Mercury	copies, 3rd and 4th Editions
Liverpool Mercury	Manchester Evening News, 2
Lloyd's List	copies, 3rd and 4th Editions
London Daily Chronicle	Manchester Guardian, 3 copies
„ Daily Mail	Pall Mall Gazette
„ Daily News	St. James' Gazette
„ Daily Telegraph	Scotsman
„ Morning Post	Sheffield Daily Telegraph
„ Standard	Yorkshire Post

WEEKLY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Herald,	* English Churchman
5 copies	English Mechanic
Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter,	Exchange and Mart (Mon.,
5 copies	Wed. and Fri.)
Athenæum	* Farm, Field, and Fireside
Black and White	Field
Boy's Own Paper	Gardeners' Chronicle
British Journal of Photography	Graphic
British Weekly	* Grocers' Review
Builder	* Herald of Golden Age
* Builders' Reporter	Illustrated London News
* Canadian Gazette	Independent and Nonconformist
Cassell's Saturday Journal	* Iron and Coal Trades Review
Chambers's Journal	Irish Catholic
Christian World	* Journal of the Society of
* Churchwoman	Arts
* Church Weekly	Judy
* Civil Service Aspirant	Labour News
Clarion	Land and Water
Colliery Guardian	Literary World
Cotton Factory Times	* Local Government Chronicle
Country Life	* Local Government Journal
* Country Sport	London Guardian
* Cyclers' News	Manchester City News
* Cycling.	Manchester Courier Weekly
Cyclist	Supplement
* Drapers' Record	Manchester Weekly Times
Economist	* Monitor
Education	Moonshine
Electrical Engineer	Nature
Engineer	New Age

Oldham Chronicle	Textile Mercury
* Patent Office Journal	Truth
* Phonetic Journal	* University Correspondent
Punch, 2 copies	* Vegetarian
Railway Review	Volunteer Service Gazette
Rock	* Warehouseman and Draper
* Rural World	Weekly Summary, 3 Copies
Saturday Review	* Wheeler
School Guardian	* Wheeling
Schoolmaster	* Wheelman
Schoolmistress	* Woman's Signal
Sketch	World.
Spectator	

MONTHLY

* Animals' Friend	* Foresters' Miscellany
Antiquary	Fortnightly Review
Army List	* Free Life
Badmington Magazine	Gentleman's Magazine
Band of Hope Review	Good Words
Blackwood's Magazine	Harmsworth Magazine
Bookseller	Harper's Monthly
British Workman	* Herald of Peace
* Brotherhood	* Humanity
Cassell's Family Magazine	* Inventor's Review
Century Magazine	Knowledge
Contemporary Review	* Labour Gazette
Cornhill Magazine	Leisure Hour
* Cottager and Artizan	Liberator
* Educational Times	* Light in the Home
English Illustrated Magazine	* Literary Guide
* Epicure	Longman's Magazine

Ludgate	Review of Reviews
* Machinery Market	Royal Magazine
Macmillan's Magazine	Science Gossip
Magazine of Art	Scribner's Magazine
* Manchester Faces and Places	Strand Magazine
* Mission Field	Studio
* Musical Herald	* Sunday Advocate and Nationa
Musical Times	Sunday League Record
Nineteenth Century	Temple Bar
* Old Paths	Textile Manufacturer
* Our Own Gazette	* Travel
Pail Mall Gazette	* Vaccination Inquirer
Pearson's Magazine	* Vegetarian Messenger
Photogram	Westminster Review
* Positivist Review	Wide World Magazine
Quiver	Windsor Magazine
* Return of the Deaths of	* Zoophilist
Seamen	

QUARTERLY.

Edinburgh Review	Quarterly Review
Historical Review	Post Office Guide

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

Bradshaw's Guide	* London and North Western
* Caledonian	* London and South Western
* Great Central	* London, Brighton, and
* Great Eastern	South Coast
* Great Northern	* London, Chatham, and Dover
* Great Western	* Midland
* Lancashire and Yorkshire	* South Eastern

DIRECTORIES.

- * Advertiser's A. B. C. Directory
 - * Business Directory, London and Provincial
 - * Commercial Directory
 - Kelly's Directory of Birmingham
 - Kelly's Directory of Cheshire
 - Kelly's Directory of Lancashire, and Gore's Liverpool
 - Kelly's Directory of Manchester, Salford, and Suburban
 - Kelly's Post Office London Directory
 - Kelly's West Riding of Yorkshire
 - * London Directory (Firms and Trades)
 - * Peck's Trades Directory, Birmingham and District
 - Sell's Directory of the World's Press
 - * Stubbs' Directory
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FILES OF NEWSPAPERS.

The "Times"	from 1881 to date.
The "Manchester Guardian"	„ 1883 „
The "Manchester Courier"	„ 1887 „
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter"	„ 1860 „
The "Stalybridge Herald"	for 1888.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Herald"	from 1889 to date.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Standard,"	1860-66, 1870-83, and 1885.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne News"	from 1868-73.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION.

HEGINBOTTOM FREE LIBRARY.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

LIBRARY.

1.—The Librarian shall have general charge of the Library, and be responsible for the safe keeping of the books and all other property belonging thereto.

2.—Library Hours, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., every week-day except Tuesday, when it is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Library is closed on Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Good Friday, Friday in Whitsun Week, Bank Holidays, Wakes Week and the week following (for stocktaking and cleaning), and such other days as the Committee may from time to time appoint.

3.—Every person above the age of 16 years who is either resident or rated within the Municipal Borough, shall be entitled to borrow books from the Library on obtaining a borrower's ticket, so long as such ticket shall remain in force. Special tickets will also be granted to children between 10 and 16 years of age, enabling the holders to borrow books from the juvenile department only.

4.—Every person desirous of obtaining a borrower's ticket must apply to the Librarian for a guaranty form, and after having obtained the signature and address of a householder of the town, must leave the same with the Librarian. Householders may sign their own guaranty forms, but cannot be surety for more than six borrowers at the same time.

5.—The signature of guaranty forms must be understood to be an assent to these rules and regulations.

6.—Three clear days after the delivery of the guaranty form, the Librarian will issue a borrower's ticket to the applicant named therein, on satisfying himself as to the propriety of so doing.

7.—The guaranty shall remain in force for three years. If a guarantor withdraws his guarantee, or ceases to reside in the Borough, a new guaranty will be required,

8.—A guarantor may terminate his responsibility by giving one calendar month's notice in writing to the Librarian, and at the expiration of such notice, and upon the delivery to the Librarian of the borrower's ticket, all further liability under the guaranty shall cease, but such guaranty shall remain in force as to the liability incurred up to the expiration of such notice, and until the delivery of the borrower's ticket. On the termination of the responsibility of the guarantor, the borrower's ticket shall cease to be in force, and shall be delivered up to the Librarian to be cancelled.

9.—Change of residence of borrowers, or their guarantors, must be intimated to the Librarian within fourteen days of such change, under penalty of the forfeiture of the borrower's ticket.

10.—Borrowers tickets are not transferable, and must be renewed annually.

11.—A lost ticket can be replaced on payment of one penny, by a personal application at the Library.

12.—Borrowers leaving the district, or ceasing to use the Library, must send their tickets to the Librarian to be cancelled; otherwise, they and their guarantors will be held responsible for any books taken out with such ticket.

13.—Borrowers should ascertain from the indicator whether books are in before asking for the same.

14.—No person is allowed to pass within the counter under any pretext whatever, except members of the Corporation and Honorary Members of the Free Library Committee.

15.—No book is issued except in exchange for a borrower's ticket.

16.—Books cannot be exchanged on the day of issue.

17.—Fifteen days (days of issue and return included) are allowed for reading a book. If kept beyond that period a fine of one penny a week, or portion of a week, will be incurred, and the borrower's ticket will not be returned until the fine is paid. At the expiration of twenty-eight days from the date of issue, application will be made to the guarantor for a new copy, or its value, and the fine incurred.

18.—Borrowers who wish to retain books beyond the fifteen days may renew the same for seven days if they are not required by another reader. Such application for renewal

must be made before the expiration of the fifteen days, and in every case the book must be brought or sent to the Library when the renewal is applied for.

19.—No more than one book will be issued to a borrower at the same time. Novels and romances in more than one volume to be in all cases considered as a single book.

20.—If a borrower finds difficulty in getting a certain book, he may leave with the Librarian a post card directed to himself. As soon as the book comes to the Library, the card will be posted to the Borrower, who must apply for the book the same day that he receives the card. Printed post cards may be had of the Librarian, one penny each.

21.—The last user of a book will be held responsible for any damage found in it, unless he or she has previously pointed out the damage to the Librarian. Torn covers, leaves folded, dirtied, or torn, pencil or ink marks, writings, drawings, etc., are damages, and will be assessed by the Librarian according to the value of the work. Persons refusing to pay damages will be excluded from the privileges of the Library.

22.—Books should be taken out and returned by the borrowers themselves wherever possible. No books will be issued to irresponsible messengers who are not competent to deliver their messages and take proper care of the books. The Librarian has power to refuse to issue books to any persons whom he may deem unqualified to take due care of them.

23.—All books must be returned (irrespective of the time allowed for reading) on or before the Thursday preceding

Wakes Saturday in every year, when the Library will be closed for stock-taking. Neglect to comply with this regulation will subject the borrower to the suspension or forfeiture of his ticket.

24.—Each person who wishes to obtain any book for reference must sign a “reader’s application form” for each work, and such signature shall be taken as an assent to the rules and regulations of the Library.

25.—Certain works shall be issued only by the special permission of the Librarian.

26.—Copying will be permitted, but not tracing. The use of ink is not permitted. Readers must not soil or injure the illustrations by fingering or laying their hands on them.

27.—Reference works must be consulted in the magazine room only.

28.—Intoxicated, dirty, disorderly, or offensive persons shall not be allowed on the premises.

29.—Dogs are not allowed in the building.

30.—The Librarian (or, in his absence, the Assistant in charge) shall have power to refuse a book to any borrower who shall neglect or object to comply with the rules of the Library; but any person so refused shall have liberty to appeal to the Library Committee, whose decision shall be final and binding.

NEWS AND READING ROOMS.

1.—The News and Reading Rooms shall be open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day except Sundays, Christmas Day, New Year’s Day, Good Friday, Friday in Whitsun

Week, and such other days as the Committee may from time to time appoint.

2.—Intoxicated, dirty, disorderly, or otherwise offensive persons are not allowed in the rooms. Smoking and sleeping are prohibited, and refreshments are not to be consumed on the premises.

3.—No audible conversation is permitted in the rooms.

4.—No book, newspaper, magazine, or other article shall be removed from the rooms, or from the stand or table on which it is placed by the Officials, without the authority of the Librarian.

5.—Every reader is requested to keep clean any book, magazine, newspaper, or sheet that he may consult, and to avoid turning down leaves, marking with pen or pencil, or otherwise defacing them. No ink to be used at any of the tables except the one set apart for writing only.

6.—The Librarian is directed to see that the rules and regulations are carried into effect, and has power to order any person from the rooms who is not using them for the purpose for which they are intended.

7.—No person under the age of sixteen years shall be admitted to the rooms.



ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION

HEGINBOTTOM FREE LIBRARY.

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LIBRARIAN,

FOR THE

Year ending March 18th, 1900.

Committee and Officers, 1899-1900

CHAIRMAN :

ALDERMAN WATERHOUSE.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR REYNER.

THE MAYOR.

ALDERMEN MARLAND, SIDDALL, AND WILSON.

COUNCILLORS J. ANDREW, PARK, PEARSON, POLLITT,
J. B. POWNALL, H. SHAW, AND YOXALL.

HONORARY MEMBERS :

REV. J. M. CRAVEN AND EDWARD STRINGER, Esq.

"BOOKS" SUB-COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN :

ALDERMAN WATERHOUSE.

THE MAYOR.

COUNCILLORS PARK, PEARSON, AND REYNER.

REV. J. M. CRAVEN.

LIBRARIAN :—D. H. WADE.

SUB-LIBRARIAN :—A. BAKER.

ASSISTANTS :—GEORGE FLETCHER, AND C. J. MELLOR.

CARETAKER :—JOHN HOLLINGWORTH.

REPORT
OF THE LIBRARIAN OF THE
HEGINBOTTOM FREE LIBRARY,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

To the Chairman and Members of the Free Library Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Sixth Annual Report on the work of the Library for the year ending March 18th, 1900.

I regret to state that the number of volumes issued during the year is 8,524 less than that of the previous year, being 65,235 as compared with 73,759 in 1898-9. The daily issue of books has fluctuated considerably, the lowest daily average for the year being 166 in September, 1899, and the highest 358 in February last. The daily average for the year is 272, or 32 less than last year, but during the last three months covered by the Report the average daily issue stands at 340, or 29 more than the average for the corresponding three months of the previous year. It is very probable that the current year may show an increase in the issue of books, and, though there has been a decrease during the past year, our Library has not been the only sufferer in this respect.

There has been a marked decrease in the issue of works of Fiction, the percentage issued during the year being 62 as compared with 68 last year.

In 1894-5 the percentage of fiction issued was 75

In 1895-6	„	„	„	72
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In 1896-7	„	„	„	71
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In 1897-8	„	„	„	69
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In 1898-9	„	„	„	68
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In 1899-1900	„	„	„	62
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On the other hand the issue of non-fictional works has increased from 23,514 to 24,816, showing an increase of 1,302 for the year.

Much care has again been exercised by the Books Subcommittee in going through the lists of books recommended from time to time, and weeding out such as were considered to be of ephemeral value or otherwise undesirable. The proportion of works of fiction has been kept as low as possible without impairing the general usefulness of the Library, and every effort has been made to keep the readers in touch with matters of current interest.

The Juvenile Department still maintains its popularity, as will be seen from the statistics of issue on p. 8, where the issue of Juvenile works is shewn separately for the first time, and amounts to 7,573 or over 11 per cent of the total issue for the year.

The total number of volumes in the Lending and Reference Departments, including books for the blind, is now 17,443. Since the issue of the last report 811 volumes have been acquired by purchase or presentation, and, after allowing for works purchased in single volume form to replace those in two or three

volumes, and publications placed on the Magazine Room Tables, the nett increase in the stock is 665 volumes.

No Supplemental Catalogue has been issued during the year, as the Books Sub-Committee preferred to expend the money it would have cost in the purchase of new books. The monthly lists of additions have been issued regularly and seem to have met the wants of readers.

The Screen, which has been erected in the Entrance Hall, has proved a decided improvement, and has been greatly appreciated by all frequenting the Library.

A new kind of ticket has been adopted during the year, which not only saves the time of the borrowers in getting the books they require, but provides them with a record of the books they have read.

An important extension of the work of the institution was inaugurated on December 11th, when the first of a series of five lectures in connection with the Library was held in the Town Hall. The intention was to bring the readers and others into closer touch with the work of the Library, but the attendance at the first four lectures was very disappointing, notwithstanding the fact that handbills were distributed from house to house throughout the Borough, and issued to every person borrowing a book from the Lending Department. Notice was also given of such lectures on the Monthly Lists of Additions, and, in the case of the last four lectures, advertisements were inserted in both local papers. More was done in the way of advertising than has been done in most centres where Library Lectures are held. Probably the chief reason why some of the lectures were not numerously attended was that four of them were not illustrated by lantern views. The

fifth lecture, "Egypt," illustrated by lantern views, drew an audience three times as large as any of the others. There is no doubt that lectures are valuable aids in Library work but they must be attractive and interesting, and although success has not attended this effort to extend the sphere of the Library's usefulness, I trust that another trial may be made, if not next winter, at any rate as soon as we have a large Lecture Hall in the Technical School and Free Library building.

In conclusion I beg to thank the Chairman and Members of the Free Library Committee for the kind assistance and encouragement they have accorded to the Library Staff in making such alterations as were thought to be conducive to widening the area of the Library's operations and increasing the interest of the public in the work of the Library.

The usual tables of Statistics are appended, giving full details of the work of the different departments.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. H. WADE.

Number of Volumes in Stock on March 18th, 1899.

Lending Department.

Periodicals, &c.	845
Philosophy, Theology, &c.	607
Law, Politics and Commerce	392
Philology	74
Science, Art and Natural History	1427
Biography, Geography, History, &c.	2937
Classical and Miscellaneous Literature	852
Poetry and Drama.....	581
Fiction and Juvenile Literature	4508
Books for the Blind.....	366

 12589

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT	4854
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 TOTAL 17443

Lending Department,

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1899. MONTH.	Periodicals, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology, and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, Geography, History, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average. *
March 20th to 30th.	46	22	19	5	109	135	30	20	1394	220	2000	10	222
April May	80 91	43 47	29 32	0 8	238 236	303 196	76 88	51 65	3071 3139	802 829	4693 4731	24 25	235 225
June July	80 49	51 47	23 21	2 1	163 227	234 213	68 47	42 23	2610 2741	684 545	3957 3914	26 26	179 178
August 1st to 12th.	21	6	3	0	68	70	8	9	770	156	1111	10	139
September..... 4th to 30th.	44	16	27	9	186	181	44	19	2073	334	2933	24	147
October	58	18	39	7	219	254	42	28	2582	461	3708	26	169
November	68	38	29	3	247	302	78	46	2849	538	4198	26	191
December	71	44	26	4	220	293	64	33	2739	592	4086	24	204
1900. January..... February	79 61	33 46	28 22	10 13	263 293	409 372	58 72	54 39	3257 3412	889 954	5080 5284	25 24	242 264
March 1st to 18th.	44	22	17	7	168	212	35	22	2209	569	3305	15	254
Totals, 1899-1900	792	433	315	69	2637	3174	710	451	32846	7573	49000	285	204
Totals, 1898-9	1957	661	401	127	3335	3599	926	627	50245	61878		288	256

REFERENCE Department.

Giving the Monthly issue in each Class, the number of Days the Library was open, Total number of Vols. Issued and Daily Average.

1899. MONTH.	Periodicals, Reports, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, History, etc.	Local and Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days Open.	* Daily Average.
March.....	54	—	2	1	473	3	11	544	10	60
20th to 30th										
April	176	1	1	—	511	3	42	734	24	37
May	310	2	3	1	1747	16	19	2098	25	100
June	254	26	5	—	1836	37	36	2194	26	100
July	180	1	3	1	1822	14	17	2038	26	93
August	107	—	—	—	372	15	9	503	10	63
1st to 12th										
September.....	160	—	1	—	217	5	11	394	24	20
4th to 30th.										
October	150	—	1	—	589	3	3	746	26	34
November	205	—	—	—	800	40	20	1065	26	48
December	504	1	2	—	733	26	9	1275	24	64
1900.										
January	558	1	2	—	1023	11	12	1607	25	77
February	646	—	2	—	1208	3	9	1863	24	93
March	373	—	1	—	784	4	7	1169	15	90
1st to 18th.										
Totals 1899-1900	3677	32	23	3	12115	180	205	16235	285	68
Totals 1898-99	2774	25	44	42	8302	292	402	11881	288	49

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

Issues of Lending and Reference Departments combined.

1899. MONTH.	Periodicals, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics and Commerce.	Philology, and Literary History.	Science, Art, and Nature History.	Biography, Geography, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average. *
March.....	100	22	21	6	582	138	41	20	1394	220	2544	10	283
20th to 30th.													
April	256	44	30	0	749	306	118	51	3071	802	5427	24	271
May	401	49	35	9	1983	212	107	65	3139	829	6829	25	325
June	334	77	28	2	1999	271	104	42	2610	684	6151	26	280
July	229	48	24	2	2049	227	64	23	2741	545	5952	26	271
August	128	6	3	0	440	85	17	9	770	156	1614	10	202
1st to 12th													
September	204	16	28	9	403	186	55	19	2073	334	3327	24	166
4th to 30th.													
October	208	18	40	7	808	257	45	28	2582	461	4454	26	202
November	273	38	29	3	1047	342	98	46	2849	538	5263	26	239
December	575	45	28	4	953	319	73	33	2739	592	5361	24	268
1900.													
January	637	34	30	10	1286	420	70	54	3257	889	6687	25	318
February	707	46	24	13	1501	375	81	39	3412	954	7152	24	358
March	417	22	18	7	952	216	42	22	2209	569	4474	15	344
1st to 18th.													
Totals, 1899-1900	4469	465	338	72	14752	3354	915	451	32846	7573	65235	285	272
Totals, 1898-9 ...	4731	686	445	169	11637	3891	1328	627	50245	73759	73759	288	305

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

An Account and Classification of Receipts.

1899. MONTH.	Fines.	Borrowers' Tickets.	Catalogues.	Old Papers.	Post Cards for Reserving Books.	Total Receipts.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
April	1 19 4	0 5 9	0 4 8	0 2 2	0 0 0	2 11 11
May	2 8 1	0 3 8	0 2 11	0 0 0	0 4 2	2 18 10
June	1 18 0	0 2 5	0 2 8	0 0 0	0 0 0	2 3 1
July	1 6 5	0 2 9	0 3 0	0 0 0	0 4 2	1 16 4
August	1 10 2	1 0 2	0 1 10	0 0 0	0 0 0	2 12 2
1st to 12th.						
September	1 10 9	2 9 6	0 10 2	0 4 6	0 0 0	4 14 11
4th to 30th.						
October	0 8 8	0 19 9	0 4 0	0 0 0	0 3 6	1 15 11
November	1 6 9	0 13 6	0 5 5	0 0 0	0 0 0	2 5 8
December	0 17 6	0 7 8	0 4 9	0 0 0	0 0 0	1 9 11
1900.						
January	2 8 8	0 13 4	0 10 3	1 1 0	0 4 2	4 17 5
February	1 11 8	0 10 0	0 14 7	0 0 0	0 0 0	2 16 3
March	1 5 6	0 4 10	0 5 10	4 16 6	0 4 2	6 16 10
Totals, 1899-1900	£18 11 6	£27 13 4	£23 10 1	£6 4 2	£1 0 2	£36 19 3
Totals, 1898-9	£26 0 4	£4 14 8	£3 10 1	£4 7 6	£1 0 10	£39 13 5

General Summary.

Lending and Reference Departments.

Volumes presented.....	209
Volumes purchased:—	
Replacements	126
Additions	471
Volumes of Societies' Publications obtained by	
Subscription	5
Volumes bound	77
Volumes in Stock	17443
Total number of Issues	65235
Average Daily Issue	272
Number of Borrowers enrolled since Sept. 4th, 1899...	1921
Tickets Cancelled	68
Number of Tickets in force	1853
Overdue books written for	1066
Volumes returned from Infected Houses—Destroyed.....	3
" " " Disinfected....	5
Books lost and replaced by borrowers	0
Books Missing	8
Books repaired by Staff during the year	1159

General Data.

Population (Census 1891)	40463
Rateable Value	£160,943
Public Libraries' Act adopted	1880
News Room (Town Hall) opened	1st August, 1881
Library (Town Hall) opened by the Mayoress (Mrs. Ely Andrew)	25th March, 1882
Library (Town Hall) closed preparatory to the re- cataloguing and removing of books to the Hegin- bottom Free Library	22nd April, 1893
Heginbottom Technical School and Free Library formally opened by the Mayor (Alderman Ely Andrew) and Alderman Thos. Heginbottom, 1st July, 1893	
Books removed from Town Hall to new Building, December, 1893	
News Room opened	1st January, 1894
Issue of books re-commenced	19th March, 1894
Juvenile Department opened	14th May, 1896

Library Lectures, 1899.

<i>Subject:</i>	<i>Lecturer:</i>
"Care of Young Children"	W. E. Fothergill, M.A., B.Sc., M.D.
"Tennyson"	A. Woodroffe Fletcher, LL.B.
"So Many Books; So Little Time; What to do?"	Rev. J. J. Wright, F.R.S.L.
"An Evening with Lan- cashire Authors"	J. W. Schofield.
"Egypt"	Charles Dunderdale.

Donors of Books, Pamphlets, &c.,

FREE LIBRARY.

Year ending 31st December, 1899.

v volumes. *r*. reports. *p*. pamphlets.

Agent General for New South Wales	1	<i>v</i>
Agent General for Queensland	2	<i>v</i> 5 <i>r</i> 3 <i>p</i>
Agent General for Tasmania	2	<i>v</i> 2 <i>r</i> 2 <i>p</i>
Agent General for Victoria.....	1	<i>v</i>
Agent General for West Australia ..	1	<i>v</i> 4 <i>r</i>
American Bureau of Education.....	3	<i>v</i> 1 <i>p</i>
Anonymous	2	<i>v</i>
Anthropological Institute	1	<i>v</i>
Arrowsmith, J. W. Esq. (publisher).....	1	<i>v</i>
Ashton-under-Lyne Co-operative Society	2	<i>v</i> 2 <i>r</i>
Betham-Edwards, Mrs. (author)	1	<i>v</i>
Blackburn Chamber of Commerce	1	<i>v</i>
Board of Advertising, Isle of Man	4	<i>v</i>
Boyle, Messrs. Robert and Sons (publishers)	1	<i>v</i>
British Museum Trustees	12	<i>v</i>
Browne, Messrs. T. B., Ltd. (publishers)	1	<i>v</i>
Colbeck, George, Esq.	3	<i>v</i>
Commissioner for Labour	5	<i>r</i>
Comptroller of Patents.....	94	<i>v</i>
Congregational Union	1	<i>v</i>
Cox, Harold, Esq.	1	<i>v</i>
Currie, Messrs., Sir Donald & Co.	1	<i>v</i>

Dale, James, Esq.....	1	v
Digby, Long, and Co., Messrs. (publishers)	1	v
Editor, Ashton-under-Lyne "Herald"	2	p
Furnival, W. J. Esq., (author)	1	v
Gerrard, John, Esq.	3	r
Greenwood, W. J. Esq., (author)	1	v
Heginbottom, Mr. Alderman	4	v
Holinsworth, C. B. Esq., (author)	3	v
Hunt, Matthew, Esq., (author).....	1	v
Knott, Herbert, Esq., J.P.....	2	v
Lancashire and Cheshire Institutes	1	r
London University Correspondence College	2	v
Macpherson, Mrs. Brewster (author)	2	v
Manchester Public Libraries Committee.....	1	v
Mather and Crowther, Messrs. (publishers)	1	v
Medical Officer of Health (Lancashire)	1	r
Neal, John, Esq., (compiler).....	4	v
Newton, Walter, Esq., (Mayor of Ashton-under-Lyne) ...	1	p
Ontario Government Agency	2	v
Owens College, Manchester.....	2	v
Portsmouth Public Libraries Committee	1	v
Queensland Information Bureau	1	v 1 r
Royal Agricultural Society	1	v
Saunders, William, Esq.	2	r
Smithsonian Institute, U.S.A.	2	r
Tucker, Captain Charlton, (author).....	2	p
Victoria University College	1	v
Wainwright, Joel, Esq.	2	v

Annual Reports from the following Libraries: Aberdeen, Adelaide (Australia), Arbroath, Aston Manor, Ayr, Bangor (U.S.A.), Barrow-in-Furness, Battersea, Belfast, Birmingham, Bishopsgate Foundation, Blackburn, Bootle, Bolton, Bradford, Brentford, Brighton, Bristol, Bromley, Buxton, Cambridge, Canterbury College, Cardiff, Carlisle, Cheltenham, Christchurch (New Zealand), Chiswick, Clapham, Clerkenwell, Clitheroe, Colchester, Cork, Cripplegate Foundation, Croydon, Detroit (U.S.A.), Dewsbury, Doncaster, Dukinfield, Dundee, Durban (South Africa), Ealing, Eastbourne, Folkestone, Fulham, Glasgow (Baillie's Institute), Great Yarmouth, Hammersmith, Hampstead, Hanley, Hereford, Hindley, Holborn, Holyhead, Hove, Hyde, Kidderminster, Kilburn, Kingston-upon-Hull, Kingston-upon-Thames, Leamington, Leeds, Leicester, Leigh, Leyton, Lincoln, Liverpool, Loughborough, Middlesbrough, Moss Side, Newark-on-Trent, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Norwich, Oldham Lyceum, Penarth, Penge, Peoria (U.S.A.), Portland (U.S.A.), Portsmouth, Redruth, Richmond (Surrey), Rochdale, Rotherhithe, Runcorn, St. George (Hanover Square), St. Giles, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Scranton (U.S.A.), Shoreditch, Smethwick, South Shields, Southampton, Southwark (St. Saviour's), Sowerby Bridge, Stafford, Stoke Newington, Streatham, Toronto (Canada), Tottenham, Twickenham, Tynemouth, Walsall, Walthamstow, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, Watford, West Ham, Westminster, Whitechapel, Widnes, Wigan, Windsor (Canada), Wolverhampton, Workington, and York.

NEWS AND MAGAZINE ROOMS.

Ashton-under-Lyne and District

United Temperance Association "Comrades."

Blackpool Public Library Committee "Blackpool Gazette" and
"Blackpool Times."

Board of Trade..... "Board of Trade Journal"
and "Patent Office
Journal."

Church of Christ.....	"Bible Advocate."
Colbeck, George, Esq.	"Two Worlds."
Co-operative Society, Working Men's	"Co-operative News."
Moss, William, Esq.	"Naturalist."
New Church Society	"New Church Magazine."
Pownall, Mr. Councillor J. B.	"National Church."
Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children	"Child's Guardian."

Also the Newspapers, &c. marked with an asterisk in the following list, which are presented by the Publishers.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, PERIODICALS
AND REVIEWS, SUPPLIED TO THE NEWS
AND READING ROOMS.

* Those papers marked with an asterisk are presented.

DAILY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Evening	London Times
Reporter, 2 copies	Manchester Courier, 2 copies
Birmingham Daily Post	Manchester Evening Chronicle,
Daily Graphic	2 copies
Freeman's Journal	Manchester Evening Mail, 2
Leeds Mercury	copies
Liverpool Mercury	Manchester Evening News, 2
Lloyd's List	copies
London Daily Chronicle	Manchester Guardian, 2 copies
„ Daily Mail	Pail Mall Gazette
„ Daily News	St. James' Gazette
„ Daily Telegraph	Scotsman
„ Morning Post	Sheffield Daily Telegraph
„ Standard	Yorkshire Post

WEEKLY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Herald,	* English Churchman
4 copies	English Mechanic
Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter,	Examiner
4 copies	Exchange and Mart (Mon.,
Athenæum	Wed. and Fri.)
Black and White	Field
Boy's Own Paper	Gardeners' Chronicle
British Journal of Photography	Graphic
British Weekly	* Grocers' Review
Builder	* Health
* Builders' Reporter	* Herald of Golden Age
* Canadian Gazette	Illustrated London News
Cassell's Saturday Journal	* Iron and Coal Trades Review
Chambers's Journal	Irish Catholic
Christian World	* Irish Wheelman
* Church Weekly	* Journal of the Society of
* Civil Service Aspirant	Arts
Clarion	Labour News
Colliery Guardian	Land and Water
Cotton Factory Times	* Liberty Review
Country Life	Literary World
* Cyclers' News	* Local Government Chronicle
* Cycling.	* Local Government Journal
Cyclist	London Guardian
* Drapers' Record	Manchester City News
Economist	Manchester Courier Weekly
Electrical Engineer	Supplement
Engineer	Manchester Weekly Times

Moonsbine	Schoolmistress
Nature	Sketch
New Age	Spectator
Oldham Chronicle	Textile Mercury
* Phonetic Journal	Truth
Publishers' Circular	* University Correspondent
Punch, 2 copies	* Vegetarian
Railway Review	Volunteer Service Gazette
Rock	* Warehouseman and Draper
Saturday Review	Weekly Summary, 3 Copies
School Guardian	World.
Schoolmaster	

MONTHLY

* Animals' Friend	English Illustrated Magazine
Antiquary	* Epicure
Army List	* Foresters' Miscellany
Badminton Magazine	Fortnightly Review
Band of Hope Review	* Free Life
Blackwood's Magazine	Gentleman's Magazine
Bookseller	Good Words
British Workman	Harmsworth Magazine
* Brotherhood	Harper's Monthly
Cassell's Family Magazine	* Herald of Peace
Century Magazine	* Humanity
Contemporary Review	* Insurance Agent and the
Cornhill Magazine	Insurance Review
* Cottager and Artizan	* Inventor's Review
* Educational Times	

- | | |
|---|--|
| * Investor's Chronicle | Photogram |
| * Journal of the Clerks of
Works Association | * Positivist Review |
| Knowledge | Quiver |
| * Labour Gazette | * Return of the Deaths of
Seamen |
| Leisure Hour | Review of Reviews |
| Liberator | Royal Magazine |
| * Light in the Home | Scribner's Magazine |
| Longman's Magazine | Strand Magazine |
| Ludgate | Studio |
| * Machinery Market | * Sunday Advocate and National
Sunday League Record |
| Macmillan's Magazine | Temple Bar |
| Magazine of Art | Textile Manufacturer |
| * Manchester Faces and Places | * Travel |
| * Mission Field | * Vaccination Inquirer |
| * Musical Herald | * Vegetarian Messenger |
| Musical Times | Westminster Review |
| Nineteenth Century | Wide World Magazine |
| * Old Paths | Windsor Magazine |
| * Our Own Gazette | * Zoophilist |
| Pall Mall Magazine | |
| Pearson's Magazine | |

QUARTERLY.

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Edinburgh Review | Quarterly Review |
| Historical Review | Post Office Guide |

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Bradshaw's Guide | * London and North Western |
| * Caledonian | * London and South Western |
| * Great Central | * London, Brighton, and
South Coast |
| * Great Eastern | * London, Chatham, and Dover |
| * Great Northern | * Midland |
| * Great Western | * South Eastern |
| * Lancashire and Yorkshire | |

DIRECTORIES.

- * Advertiser's A. B. C. Directory
 - * Business Directory, London and Provincial
 - * Commercial Directory
 - Gore's Liverpool Directory
 - Kelly's Directory of Birmingham
 - Kelly's Directory of Cheshire
 - Kelly's Directory of Lancashire, and Gore's Liverpool
 - Kelly's Directory of Manchester, Salford, and Suburban
 - Kelly's Post Office London Directory
 - Kelly's West Riding of Yorkshire
 - * London Directory (Firms and Trades)
 - * Peck's Trades Directory, Birmingham and District
 - * Practical Advertising
 - Sell's Directory of the World's Press
 - * Stubbs' Directory
-

ANNUALS AND YEAR-BOOKS.

- Ashton-under-Lyne Corporation Manual.
- British Almanac and Family Cyclopædia.
- Church of England Official Year-Book.
- Clergy List.
- Congregational Year Book.
- Constitutional Year Book.
- Co-operative Societies Annual.
- County Councils, Municipal Corporations, etc. Companion.
- Directory of Directors.
- Directory of Titled Persons.
- Durham University Calendar.
- Hazell's Annual.

Imperial Institute Year Book.

Insurance Blue Book and Guide.

Literary Year Book and Bookman's Directory.

London University Guide and University Correspondence

College Calendar.

Musical Directory.

New Zealand Official Year-Book.

Owens College Calendar.

Queensland Official Year-Book.

Science and Art Department Calendar.

Statesman's Year-Book.

Statistical Year Book of Canada.

Theatrical World.

Whitaker's Almanack.

Who's Who.

Year Book of the Scientific and Learned Societies of Great
Britain and Ireland.

Year's Art.

FILES OF NEWSPAPERS.

The "Times"from 1881 to date.

The "Manchester Guardian" , 1883 ,

The "Manchester Courier"..... 1887

The "Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter" „ 1860 „

The "Stalybridge Herald" for 1888.

The "Ashton-under-Lyne Herald" from 1889 to date.

The "Ashton-under-Lyne Standard," 1860-66, 1870-83.

and 1885.

The "Ashton-under-Lyne News".....from 1868-73.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION.

HEGINBOTTOM FREE LIBRARY.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

LIBRARY.

1.—The Librarian shall have general charge of the Library, and be responsible for the safe keeping of the books and all other property belonging thereto.

2.—Library Hours, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., every week-day except Tuesday, when it is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Library is closed on Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Good Friday, Friday in Whitsun Week, Bank Holidays, Wakes Week and the week following (for stocktaking and cleaning), and such other days as the Committee may from time to time appoint.

3.—Every person above the age of 16 years who is either resident or rated within the Municipal Borough, shall be entitled to borrow books from the Library on obtaining a borrower's ticket, so long as such ticket shall remain in force. Special tickets will also be granted to children between 10 and 16 years of age, enabling the holders to borrow books from the juvenile department only.

4.—Every person desirous of obtaining a borrower's ticket must apply to the Librarian for a guaranty form, and after having obtained the signature and address of a Burgess must leave the same with the Librarian. Burgesses may sign their own guaranty forms, but cannot be surety for more than six borrowers at the same time.

5.—The signature of guaranty forms must be understood to be an assent to these rules and regulations.

6.—On the day after the delivery of the guaranty form, the Librarian will issue a borrower's ticket to the applicant named therein, on satisfying himself as to the propriety of so doing.

7.—The guaranty shall remain in force for one year. If a guarantor withdraws his guarantee, or ceases to reside in the Borough, a new guaranty will be required.

8.—A guarantor may terminate his responsibility by giving one calendar month's notice in writing to the Librarian, and at the expiration of such notice, and upon the delivery to the Librarian of the borrower's ticket, all further liability under the guaranty shall cease, but such guaranty shall remain in force as to the liability incurred up to the expiration of such notice, and until the delivery of the borrower's ticket. On the termination of the responsibility of the guarantor, the borrower's ticket shall cease to be in force, and shall be delivered up to the Librarian to be cancelled.

9.—Change of residence of borrowers, or their guarantors, must be intimated to the Librarian within fourteen days of such change, under penalty of the forfeiture of the borrower's ticket.

10.—Borrowers tickets are not transferable, and must be renewed annually.

11.—A lost ticket can be replaced on payment of one penny, by a personal application at the Library.

12.—Borrowers leaving the district, or ceasing to use the Library, must send their tickets to the Librarian to be cancelled; otherwise, they and their guarantors will be held responsible for any books taken out with such ticket.

13.—Borrowers should ascertain from the indicator whether books are in before asking for the same.

14.—No person is allowed to pass within the counter under any pretext whatever, except members of the Corporation and Honorary Members of the Free Library Committee.

15.—No book is issued except in exchange for a borrower's ticket.

16.—Books cannot be exchanged on the same day of issue

17.—Fifteen days (days of issue and return included) are allowed for reading a book. If kept beyond that period a fine of one penny a week, or portion of a week, will be incurred, and the borrower's ticket will not be returned until the fine is paid. At the expiration of twenty-eight days from the date of issue, application will be made to the guarantor for a new copy, or its value, and the fine incurred.

18.—Borrowers who wish to retain books beyond the fifteen days may renew the same for seven days if they are not required by another reader. Such application for renewal must be made before the expiration of the fifteen days.

19.—No more than one book will be issued to a borrower at the same time. Novels and romances in more than one volume to be in all cases considered as a single book.

20.—If a borrower finds difficulty in getting a certain book, he may leave with the Librarian a post card directed to himself. As soon as the book comes to the Library, the card will be posted to the Borrower, who must apply for the book the same day that he receives the card. Printed post cards may be had of the Librarian, one penny each.

21.—The last user of a book will be held responsible for any damage found in it, unless he or she has previously pointed out the damage to the Librarian. Torn covers, leaves folded, dirtied, or torn, pencil or ink marks, writings, drawings, etc., are damages, and will be assessed by the Librarian according to the value of the work. Persons refusing to pay damages will be excluded from the privileges of the Library.

22.—Books should be taken out and returned by the borrowers themselves wherever possible. No books will be issued to irresponsible messengers who are not competent to deliver their messages and take proper care of the books. The Librarian has power to refuse to issue books to any persons whom he may deem unqualified to take due care of them.

23.—All books must be returned (irrespective of the time allowed for reading) on or before the Thursday preceding Wakes Saturday in every year, when the Library will be closed for stock-taking. Neglect to comply with this regulation will subject the borrower to the suspension or forfeiture of his ticket.

24.—Each person who wishes to obtain any book for reference must sign a “reader’s application form” for each work, and such signature shall be taken as an assent to the rules and regulations of the Library.

25.—Certain works shall be issued only by the special permission of the Librarian.

26.—Copying will be permitted, but not tracing. The use of ink is not permitted. Readers must not soil or injure the illustrations by fingering or laying their hands on them.

27.—Reference works must be consulted in the magazine room only.

28.—Intoxicated, dirty, disorderly, or offensive persons shall not be allowed on the premises.

29.—Dogs are not allowed in the building.

30.—The Librarian (or, in his absence, the Assistant in charge) shall have power to refuse a book to any borrower who shall neglect or object to comply with the rules of the Library; but any person so refused shall have liberty to appeal to the Library Committee, whose decision shall be final and binding.

NEWS AND READING ROOMS.

1.—The News and Reading Rooms shall be open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day except Sundays, Christmas Day, New Year’s Day, Good Friday, Friday in Whitsun Week, and such other days as the Committee may from time to time appoint

2.—Intoxicated, dirty, disorderly, or otherwise offensive persons are not allowed in the rooms. Smoking and sleeping are prohibited, and refreshments are not to be consumed on the premises.

3.—No audible conversation is permitted in the rooms.

4.—No book, newspaper, magazine, or other article shall be removed from the rooms, or from the stand or table on which it is placed by the Officials, without the authority of the Librarian.

5.—Every reader is requested to keep clean any book, magazine, newspaper, or sheet that he may consult, and to avoid turning down leaves, marking with pen or pencil, or otherwise defacing them. No ink to be used at any of the tables except the one set apart for writing only.

6.—The Librarian is directed to see that the rules and regulations are carried into effect, and has power to order any person from the rooms who is not using them for the purpose for which they are intended.

7.—No person under the age of sixteen years shall be admitted to the rooms.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION

HEGINBOTTOM FREE LIBRARY.

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LIBRARIAN,

FOR THE

Year ending March 16th, 1901.

Committee and Officers, 1900-1901.

CHAIRMAN :

ALDERMAN WATERHOUSE.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR REYNER.

THE MAYOR.

ALDERMEN MARLAND, SIDDALL, AND WILSON.
COUNCILLORS J. ANDREW, PARK, PEARSON, POLLITT,
H. SHAW, AND YOXALL.

HONORARY MEMBERS:

REV. J. M. CRAVEN AND RALPH LEES, Esq.

"BOOKS" SUB-COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN :

ALDERMAN WATERHOUSE.

THE MAYOR.

COUNCILLORS PARK, PEARSON, AND REYNER.
REV. J. M. CRAVEN.

LIBRARIAN :—D. H. WADE.

SUB-LIBRARIAN :—GEO. FLETCHER.

ASSISTANTS :—CHAS. J. MELLOR, AND ERNEST OKELL.

CARETAKER :—JOHN HOLLINGWORTH.

REPORT
OF THE LIBRARIAN OF THE
HEGINBOTTOM FREE LIBRARY,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

To the Chairman and Members of the Free Library Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Seventh Annual Report on the work of the Heginbottom Free Library, covering the year ending March 16th, 1901.

It is a pleasure to be able to state that the circulation of books has been steadily increasing throughout the year, particularly in the last six months, during which the average daily issue has increased from 281 to 368.

As will be seen from the table of issues on page 10, the average number of volumes issued daily during the concluding month of the year is 368, which is the highest average for the past two years. The lowest daily average of the year occurs in

August, the holiday month of the year, and even in this case it shews an increase of over 25 per cent. as compared with the lowest daily average of the previous year.

In the Lending Department the total number of volumes issued is 53,879 as compared with 49,000 during the preceding year, and in the Reference Department 18,343 as against 16,235, giving an increase of 4,879 in the Lending and 2,108 in the Reference Department, or a total increase in the issue of 6,98 for the year.

The circulation of fictional and juvenile works combined shews an increase of 1 per cent. The percentage for 1899-1900 was 62, whereas for the year covered by this report it is 63. Juvenile works are not, however, solely fictional, so that the comparison is scarcely a fair one. If we take the number of works of fiction issued to adult borrowers, it will be found to be only 48 per cent. of the total number of issues for the year, as against 50 per cent. for the year 1899-1900.

The Juvenile Department of the Library, which has been extremely successful ever since its inception, has more than maintained its popularity, the total issue for the year being 10,845 (or 15 per cent. of the total issue for the year) as against 7,573 for the previous year, an increase of 3,272.

The total number of volumes in the Lending and Reference Departments is now 18,207 or an increase of 764 during the year. Every care has been taken by the Books Sub-Committee to ensure that the additions made to the Library should be of a desirable kind, and a list of books selected by the Sub-Committee has been sent to each member of the Free Library Committee prior to the Ordinary Meeting each month.

The new Ticket which was adopted last year has been appreciated by the Borrowers, as was anticipated in the previous report.

The usual lists of additions have been issued monthly during the year, and occasional lists, dealing with the topics of the day, have been placed on the Notice Boards in the Entrance Hall. No Supplemental Catalogue has been published, but it will be necessary to publish one within the next few months, as it is now two years since the last one was issued.

The arrangement by which the soldiers at the Barracks have been allowed to participate in the advantages of the Library has proved eminently successful, and the evident care which is taken of the books, as judged from the clean state in which they are returned, shews that the privilege has not been abused.

The commencement of the new Library year will see the whole of the residents of Hurst placed in the position of being able to share in the privileges of the Library. It is to be hoped that the efforts of the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council, who, though not in a position to provide a Library, have obtained for the inhabitants of their district similar privileges of reading to those enjoyed by their neighbours, may be duly appreciated.

The Magazine Room still continues to be very popular, but it is frequently crowded to excess, and the accommodation is decidedly insufficient for the wants of the town. The provision of a larger room is very urgently required, and it is necessary that something should be done to remedy matters as soon as the Committee can see its way.

I cannot close this report without again thanking the Chairman and Members of the Committee for the continued and ready assistance they have at all times given to the members of the staff who have carried on the work of the Library. The Sub-Librarian and Assistants have tried to carry out their duties satisfactorily, and the increasing popularity of the Library proves to some extent how far they have succeeded.

The usual tables of statistics, giving full details of the work of the Library, are appended.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. H. WADE.

Number of Volumes in Stock on March 16th, 1901.

Lending Department.

Periodicals, &c.	890
Philosophy, Theology, &c.	615
Law, Politics and Commerce	402
Philology	74
Science, Art and Natural History	1460
Biography, Geography, History, &c.	3054
Classical and Miscellaneous Literature	881
Poetry and Drama.....	589
Fiction.....	4316
Juvenile Literature	407
Books for the Blind.....	412
	<hr/>
	13200
REFERENCE DEPARTMENT	5007
	<hr/>
TOTAL	18207
	<hr/>

Lending Department.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1900. MONTH.	Periodicals, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, Geography, History, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	* Daily Average.
March	22	15	11	7	99	124	30	9	1275	261	1853	12	185
19th to 31st.													
April	34	52	24	4	168	254	60	34	2511	515	3656	23	192
May	74	50	32	5	211	258	71	33	2885	747	4366	26	198
June	60	44	25	6	195	268	47	26	2775	672	4118	24	206
July	43	25	17	10	160	276	63	48	2674	704	4020	26	183
August	20	15	6	1	55	75	24	7	1020	245	1468	10	163
1st to 13th.													
September.....	50	27	29	11	191	220	53	25	2617	670	3893	24	195
3rd to 29th.													
October	85	41	37	17	240	239	82	53	3181	981	4956	27	225
November	75	48	40	5	242	264	80	40	3395	1063	5252	26	239
December	71	30	27	10	239	274	82	42	3274	1198	5247	24	250
1901.													
January.....	80	44	36	8	288	336	113	87	3600	1427	6019	26	287
February	94	39	18	6	246	304	95	56	3161	1458	5477	23	288
March	55	43	13	7	159	224	75	49	2025	904	3554	14	296
1st to 16th.													
Totals, 1900-1901	763	473	315	97	2493	3116	875	509	34393	10845	53879	285	225
Totals, 1899-1900	792	433	315	69	2637	3174	710	451	32846	7573	49000	285	204

Reference Department.

Giving the Monthly issue in each Class, the number of Days the Library was open, Total number of Vols. Issued and Daily Average.

1900. MONTH.	Periodicals, Reports, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, History, etc.	Local and Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days Open.	* Daily Average.
March.....	308	—	—	—	643	—	3	954	12	95
19th to 31st										
April	633	3	5	—	1272	3	2	1918	23	101
May	668	1	—	—	1730	1	3	2403	26	109
June	570	6	1	—	1716	3	—	2296	24	115
July ...	495	7	9	—	1754	3	3	2271	26	103
August	150	3	—	—	259	—	—	412	10	46
1st to 13th										
September.....	562	2	—	—	297	38	26	925	24	46
3rd to 29th.										
October	477	3	—	—	742	3	2	1227	27	56
November	325	4	—	1	880	16	9	1235	26	56
December	228	—	1	—	906	4	16	1155	24	55
1901.										
January	343	1	1	5	1060	4	11	1425	26	68
February	292	3	—	1	956	1	3	1256	23	66
March	219	—	—	—	636	3	8	866	14	72
1st to 16th.										
Totals 1900-1901	5270	33	17	7	12851	79	86	18343	285	77
Totals 1899-1900	3677	32	23	3	12115	180	205	16235	285	68

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

Issues of Lending and Reference Departments combined.

1900. MONTH.	Periodicals, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, and Natural History.	Biography, Geography, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily * Average.
March.....	330	15	11	7	742	124	33	9	1275	261	2807	12	281
19th to 31st.													
April	667	55	29	4	1440	257	62	34	2511	515	5574	23	293
May	742	51	32	5	1941	259	74	33	2885	747	6769	26	308
June	630	50	26	6	1911	271	47	26	2775	672	6414	24	321
July	538	32	26	10	1914	279	66	48	2674	704	6291	26	286
August	170	18	6	1	314	75	24	7	1020	245	1880	10	209
1st to 13th													
September	612	29	29	11	488	258	79	25	2617	670	4818	24	241
3rd to 29th.													
October	562	44	37	17	982	242	84	53	3181	981	6183	27	281
November	400	52	40	6	1122	280	89	40	3395	1063	6487	26	295
December	299	30	28	10	1145	278	98	42	3274	1198	6402	24	305
1901.													
January	423	45	37	13	1348	340	124	87	3600	1427	7444	26	354
February	386	42	18	7	1202	305	98	56	3161	1458	6733	23	354
March	274	43	13	7	795	227	83	49	2025	904	4420	14	368
1st to 16th.													
Totals, 1900-1901	6033	506	332	104	15344	3195	961	509	34393	10845	72222	285	302
Totals, 1899-1900	4469	465	338	72	14752	3354	915	451	32846	7573	65235	285	272

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours counted as one day.

An Account and Classification of Receipts.

1900. MONTH.	Borrowers' Tickets.	Catalogues.	Fines.	Old Papers.	Post Cards for Reserving Books.	Subscriptions.	Total Receipts.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
April	0 6 9	0 6 10	1 3 6	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	1 17 1
May	0 7 2	0 5 0	3 0 1	0 0 0	0 4 2	0 0 0	3 16 5
June	0 3 4	0 7 1	2 0 10	0 0 0	0 0 0	2 10 0	5 1 3
July	0 3 10	0 2 0	1 9 10	0 1 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	1 16 8
August	0 1 10	0 0 0	1 9 10	0 5 4	0 0 0	0 0 0	1 17 0
1st to 13th. September	1 2 6	0 5 9	0 2 5	0 0 0	0 4 1	10 0 0	11 14 9
3rd to 29th. October	0 16 1	0 4 11	0 16 5	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	1 17 5
November	0 12 11	0 6 2	1 0 4	0 9 6	0 3 6	0 0 0	2 12 5
December	0 9 3	0 1 6	1 12 5	0 13 6	0 4 2	0 0 0	3 0 10
1901. January	0 10 5	0 2 0	3 2 8	0 8 9	0 0 0	2 10 0	6 13 10
February	0 8 4	0 3 1	1 15 2	3 8 9	0 0 0	0 0 0	5 15 4
March	0 5 7	0 3 0	1 10 8	0 9 8	0 4 2	0 0 0	2 13 1
Totals, 1900-1901	£5 8 0	£2 7 4	£19 4 2	£5 16 6	£1 0 1	£15 0 0	£48 16 1
Totals, 1899-1900	£7 13 4	£3 10 1	£18 11 6	£6 4 2	£1 0 2	£0 0 0	£36 19 3

General Summary.

Lending and Reference Departments.

Volumes presented.....	159
Volumes purchased :—	
Replacements	179
Additions	479
Volumes of Societies' Publications obtained by Subscription	8
Volumes bound	83
Volumes in Stock	18207
Total number of Issues	72222
Average Daily Issue	272
Number of Borrowers enrolled since Sept. 4th, 1899...	4027
Tickets Cancelled	1278
Number of Tickets in force	2749
Overdue books written for	1060
Volumes returned from Infected Houses—Destroyed.....	3
" " " Disinfected....	2
Books repaired by Staff during the year	728

General Data.

Population (Census 1891)	40463
Rateable Value	£168,961
Public Libraries' Act adopted	1880
News Room (Town Hall) opened	1st August, 1881
Library (Town Hall) opened by the Mayoress (Mrs. Ely Andrew).....	25th March, 1882
Library (Town Hall) closed preparatory to the re- cataloguing and removing of books to the Hegin- bottom Free Library	22nd April, 1893
Heginbottom Technical School and Free Library formally opened by the Mayor (Alderman Ely Andrew) and Alderman Thos. Heginbottom, 1st July, 1893	
Books removed from Town Hall to new Building, December, 1893	
News Room opened	1st January, 1894
Issue of books re-commenced.....	19th March, 1894
Juvenile Department opened.....	14th May, 1896

Donors of Books, Pamphlets, &c.,

FREE LIBRARY.

Year ending 31st December, 1900.

v volumes. *r.* reports. *p.* pamphlets.

Agent General for New Brunswick	2	<i>v</i>
Agent General for New South Wales	1	<i>v</i>
Agent General for Queensland	2	<i>r</i> 12 <i>p</i>
Agent General for Western Australia.....	2	<i>v</i>
Anonymous	1	<i>v</i> 1 <i>p</i>
Anthropological Society	1	<i>v</i>
Ashton-under-Lyne & District Typographical Association	1	<i>v</i>
Ashton-under-Lyne Co-operative Society	3	<i>v</i>
Bremont, Comtesse de	1	<i>v</i>
British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society	1	<i>r</i>
British Museum Trustees	7	<i>v</i>
Browne, Messrs. T. B., Ltd. (publishers)	1	<i>v</i>
Canadian Government Agency	1	<i>v</i>
Cobden Club	1	<i>r</i>
Commissioner for Labour	7	<i>r</i>
Comptroller of Patents.....	59	<i>v</i>
Congregational Union	1	<i>v</i>
Durham University	1	<i>v</i>
Edwards, J. Passmore, Esq.	1	<i>v</i>
Elliott, Sir George (author)	1	<i>p</i>
Gale and Polden, Ltd. (publishers)	1	<i>v</i>
Gerrard, John, Esq.; (author).....	1	<i>r</i>
Green, Sir Edward.....	1	<i>v</i>

Greenwood, W. J. Esq., (author)	3 v
Hannan, W. I. Esq., (author)	2 p
Holinsworth, C. B. Esq.	3 v
Judge, J. M. K., Philadelphia	1 v
Keig, W. Esq.....	4 p
Kershaw, James Esq., C.C.....	9 v
Knott, Herbert, Esq., J.P.....	1 v
Lancashire County Council.....	2 r
Leigh Brown Trust	1 v
Macdonald, Messrs. & Co. Ltd. (publishers).....	2 v
Manchester Public Libraries Committee.....	1 v
Manchester Statistical Society	2 v
Manchester Technical Instruction Committee	1 v
Medical Officer of Health (Lancashire)	1 r
Mullen, B. H. Esq., M.A.	1 v
National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children..	1 r
Neal, John, Esq., (compiler).....	2 v
Ontario Government Agency	2 p
Owens College, Manchester.....	1 v
Park, Mr. Councillor, J.P.	1 v
Parkyn, E. A. Esq., M.A., (author).....	2 v
Peck, W. E. Esq. (publisher)	v
Robertson, Miss E.	1 v
Royal Agricultural Society ...	1 v
Ruskin Museum Committee, Sheffield.....	1 v
Saunders, William, Esq.	1 r 2 p
Sell, Henry, Esq. (publisher)	1 v
Smithsonian Institute, U.S.A.	1 r
Stubbs Publishing Co. (publishers) ..	1 v
United States Government—Education Department	1 r
University Correspondence College Press	1 v

Vickers, James Wm., Esq., (publisher)	1 v
Waterhouse, Mr. Alderman	5 v
Wright, Rev. J. J., (author)	1 p

Annual Reports from the following Libraries: Aberdeen, Acton, Adelaide (South Australia), Ayr, Baillie's Institution (Glasgow), Barrow-in-Furness, Battersea, Bebbington, Belfast, Birmingham, Birmingham Library, Bishopsgate Foundation, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bolton, Bootle, Bournemouth, Brentford, Bridgeport (U.S.A.), Brighton, Brooklyn (U.S.A.), Cambridge, Cambridge University, Cardiff, Cheltenham, Chiswick, Christchurch (Southwark), Christchurch (New Zealand), Clerkenwell, Cleveland (U.S.A.), Clitheroe, Colchester, Cork, Croydon, Derby, Detroit (U.S.A.), Dewsbury, Doncaster, Dukinfield, Ealing, Eastbourne, Falmouth, Folkestone, Fulham, Gloucester, Gosport and Alverstoke, Great Yarmouth, Hammersmith, Hampstead, Hanley, Hartlepool, Hindley, Holborn, Hove, Hyde, Kidderminster, Kingston-upon-Thames, Leamington, Leeds, Leek, Leyton, Lincoln, Liverpool, Longton, Los Angeles, Loughborough, Manchester, Middlesbrough, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Norwich, Penarth, Peoria (U.S.A.), Perth, Plymouth, Poole, Portland (U.S.A.), Portsmouth, Preston, Richmond (Surrey), Rotherhithe, Rothwell, Runcorn, St. Bride Foundation, St. George (Hanover Square), St. George's-in-the-East, St. Giles, St. Saviour's (Southwark), Scranton (U.S.A.), Sheffield, Shore-ditch, Smethwick, Southampton, Sowerby Bridge, Stafford, Stirling's and Glasgow, Streatham, Sydney (N.S.W.), Todmorden, Toronto (Canada), Tottenham, Twickenham, Tynemouth, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, Watford, West Bromwich, West Ham, West Hartlepool, Westminster, Widnes, Wigan, Willesden, Wimbledon, Windsor (Canada), Wolverhampton, Workington, and York.

NEWS AND MAGAZINE ROOMS.

Ashton-under-Lyne and District United Temperance Association	"Comrades."
Blackpool Public Library Committee	"Blackpool Gazette" and "Blackpool Times."
Board of Trade	"Board of Trade Journal" and "Patent Office Journal."
Chapman, Samuel, Esq.	"Engineering." "Textile Recorder." "British Trade Journal." "Ironmongers' Chronicle." "Implement and Machinery Review."
Church of Christ.....	"Bible Advocate."
Colbeck, George, Esq.	"Two Worlds."
Co-operative Society, Working Men's	"Co-operative News."
Foster, Thos., Esq.	"Horological Journal."
New Church Society	"New Church Magazine."
Pownall, Mr. Councillor J. B..... ..	"National Church."
Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children	"Child's Guardian."

Also the Newspapers, &c. marked with an asterisk in the following list, which are presented by the Publishers.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, PERIODICALS
AND REVIEWS, SUPPLIED TO THE NEWS
AND READING ROOMS.

* Those papers marked with an asterisk are presented.

DAILY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Evening Reporter, 2 copies	Freeman's Journal Leeds Mercury
Birmingham Daily Post	Liverpool Mercury
Daily Graphic	Lloyd's List

London Daily Chronicle	Manchester Evening Mail, 2
„ Daily Mail	copies
„ Daily News	Manchester Evening News, 2
„ Daily Telegraph	copies
„ Morning Post	Manchester Guardian, 2 copies
„ Standard	Pall Mall Gazette
London Times	Scotsman
Manchester Courier, 2 copies	Sheffield Daily Telegraph
Manchester Evening Chronicle	Westminster Gazette
2 copies	Yorkshire Post

WEEKLY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Herald,	* Civil Service Aspirant
4 copies	Clarion
Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter,	Colliery Guardian
4 copies	* Co-operative News
Athenæum	Cotton Factory Times
Black and White	Country Life
* Blackpool Gazette	* Cyclers' News
* Blackpool Times	* Cycling.
* Board of Trade Journal	Cyclist
Boy's Own Paper	* Drapers' Record
British Journal of Photography	Economist
British Weekly	Electrical Engineer
Builder	Engineer
* Builders' Reporter	* Engineering
* Canadian Gazette	English Mechanic
Cassell's Saturday Journal	Era
Chambers's Journal	Examiner
Christian World	Exchange and Mart (Mon.,
* Church Weekly	Wed. and Fri.)

Field	Manchester Weekly Times
Fun	Nature
Gardeners' Chronicle	Oldham Chronicle
Graphic	* Patent Office Journal
* Grocers' Review	* Phonetic Journal
* Health	Publishers' Circular
* Herald of Golden Age	Punch, 2 copies
Illustrated London News	Railway Review
* Iron and Coal Trades Review	Rock
Irish Catholic	Saturday Review
* Irish Wheelman	School Guardian
* Journal of the Society of Arts	Schoolmaster
Labour News	Schoolmistress
Land and Water	Sketch
* Liberty Review	Spectator
Literary World	Textile Mercury
* Local Government Chronicle	Truth
* Local Government Journal	* Two Worlds
London Guardian	* University Correspondent
* London Stock Exchange Report	* Vegetarian
Manchester City News	Volunteer Service Gazette
Manchester Courier Weekly Supplement	* Warehouseman and Draper Weekly Summary, 3 Copies World.

MONTHLY

* Animals' Friend	Blackwood's Magazine
Antiquary	Bookseller
Army List	British Workman
Badminton Magazine	* Brotherhood
Band of Hope Review	Cassell's Family Magazine
* Bible Advocate	Century Magazine

- * Child's Guardian
- * Comrades
- Contemporary Review
- Cornhill Magazine
- * Cottager and Artizan
- * Educational Times
- English Illustrated Magazine
- * Epicure
- * Foresters' Miscellany
- Fortnightly Review
- * Free Life
- Gentleman's Magazine
- Good Words
- Harmsworth Magazine
- Harper's Monthly
- * Herald of Peace
- * Humanity
- * Insurance Agent and the
Insurance Review
- * Inventor's Review
- * Investor's Chronicle
- * Journal of the Clerks of
Works Association
- Knowledge
- * Labour Gazette
- Leisure Hour
- Liberator
- * Liberty Review
- * Light in the Home
- Longman's Magazine
- Ludgate
- * Machinery Market
- Macmillan's Magazine
- Magazine of Art
- * Manchester Faces and Places
- * Mission Field
- * Musical Herald
- Musical Times
- * National Church
- * Naturalist
- * New Church Magazine
- Nineteenth Century
- * Old Paths
- Pail Mall Magazine
- Pearson's Magazine
- Photogram
- * Positivist Review
- Quiver
- * Returns of the Deaths of
Seamen
- Review of Reviews
- Royal Magazine
- Scribner's Magazine
- Strand Magazine
- Studio
- * Sunday Advocate and Nationa
Sunday League Record
- Temple Bar
- Textile Manufacturer
- * Textile Recorder
- * Travel
- * Vaccination Inquirer
- * Vegetarian Messenger
- Westminster Review

Wide World Magazine
Windsor Magazine

* Zoophilist

QUARTERLY.

Edinburgh Review
Historical Review

Quarterly Review
Post Office Guide

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

Bradshaw's Guide

* London and North Western

* Caledonian

* London and South Western

* Great Central

* London, Brighton, and

* Great Eastern

South Coast

* Great Northern

* London, Chatham, and Dover

* Great Western

* Midland

* Lancashire and Yorkshire

* South Eastern

DIRECTORIES.

* Advertiser's A. B. C. Directory

* Business Directory, London and Provincial

* Commercial Directory

Gore's Liverpool Directory

Kelly's Directory of Birmingham

Kelly's Directory of Cheshire

Kelly's Directory of Lancashire

Kelly's Directory of Manchester, Salford, and Suburban

Kelly's Post Office London Directory

Kelly's West Riding of Yorkshire

* London Directory (Firms and Trades)

* Macdonald's English Directory

* Peck's Trades Directory, Birmingham and District

* Practical Advertising

Sell's Directory of the World's Press

* Stubbs' Directory

* Vicker's Newspaper Gazetteer

ANNUALS AND YEAR-BOOKS.

Ashton-under-Lyne Corporation Manual.

Board of Education Calendar.

British Almanac and Family Cyclopædia.

Clergy List.

Congregational Year Book.

County Councils, Municipal Corporations, etc. Companion.

Directory of Directors.

Directory of Titled Persons.

Durham University Calendar.

Hazell's Annual.

Insurance Blue Book and Guide.

Literary Year Book and Bookman's Directory.

London University Guide and University Correspondence
College Calendar.

Musical Directory.

Owens College Calendar.

Statesman's Year-Book.

Whitaker's Almanack.

Who's Who.

Year Book of the Scientific and Learned Societies of Great Britain and Ireland.

Year's Art.

FILES OF NEWSPAPERS.

The "Times"from 1881 to date.

The "Manchester Guardian" 1883 ..

The "Manchester Courier"	1887	17
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The "Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter" „ 1860 „

The "Stalybridge Herald" for 1888.

The "Ashton-under-Lyne Herald" from 1889 to date.

The "Ashton-under-Lyne Standard," 1860-66, 1870-83.
and 1885.

The "Ashton-under-Lyne News".....from 1868-73.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION.

HEGINBOTTOM FREE LIBRARY.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

LIBRARY.

1.—The Librarian shall have general charge of the Library, and be responsible for the safe keeping of the books and all other property belonging thereto.

2.—Library Hours, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., every week-day except Tuesday, when it is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Library is closed on Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Good Friday, Friday in Whitsun Week, Bank Holidays, Wakes Week and the week following (for stocktaking and cleaning), and such other days as the Committee may from time to time appoint.

3.—Every person above the age of 16 years who is either resident or rated within the Municipal Borough, shall be entitled to borrow books from the Library on obtaining a borrower's ticket, so long as such ticket shall remain in force. Special tickets will also be granted to children between 10 and 16 years of age, enabling the holders to borrow books from the juvenile department only.

4.—Every person desirous of obtaining a borrower's ticket must apply to the Librarian for a guaranty form, and after having obtained the signature and address of a Burgess must leave the same with the Librarian. Burgesses may sign their own guaranty forms, but cannot be surety for more than six borrowers at the same time.

5.—The signature of guaranty forms must be understood to be an assent to these rules and regulations.

6.—On the day after the delivery of the guaranty form, the Librarian will issue a borrower's ticket to the applicant named therein, on satisfying himself as to the propriety of so doing.

7.—The guaranty shall remain in force for one year. If a guarantor withdraws his guarantee, or ceases to reside in the Borough, a new guaranty will be required.

8.—A guarantor may terminate his responsibility by giving one calendar month's notice in writing to the Librarian, and at the expiration of such notice, and upon the delivery to the Librarian of the borrower's ticket, all further liability under the guaranty shall cease, but such guaranty shall remain in force as to the liability incurred up to the expiration of such notice, and until the delivery of the borrower's ticket. On the termination of the responsibility of the guarantor, the borrower's ticket shall cease to be in force, and shall be delivered up to the Librarian to be cancelled.

9.—Change of residence of borrowers, or their guarantors, must be intimated to the Librarian within fourteen days of such change, under penalty of the forfeiture of the borrower's ticket.

10.—Borrowers tickets are not transferable, and must be renewed annually.

11.—A lost ticket can be replaced on payment of one penny, by a personal application at the Library.

12.—Borrowers leaving the district, or ceasing to use the Library, must send their tickets to the Librarian to be cancelled; otherwise, they and their guarantors will be held responsible for any books taken out with such ticket.

13.—Borrowers should ascertain from the indicator whether books are in before asking for the same.

14.—No person is allowed to pass within the counter under any pretext whatever, except members of the Corporation and Honorary Members of the Free Library Committee.

15.—No book is issued except in exchange for a borrower's ticket.

16.—Books cannot be exchanged on the same day of issue.

17.—Fifteen days (days of issue and return included) are allowed for reading a book. If kept beyond that period a fine of one penny a week, or portion of a week, will be incurred, and the borrower's ticket will not be returned until the fine is paid. At the expiration of twenty-eight days from the date of issue, application will be made to the guarantor for a new copy, or its value, and the fine incurred.

18.—Borrowers who wish to retain books beyond the fifteen days may renew the same for seven days if they are not required by another reader. Such application for renewal must be made before the expiration of the fifteen days.

19.—No more than one book will be issued to a borrower at the same time. Novels and romances in more than one volume to be in all cases considered as a single book.

20.—If a borrower finds difficulty in getting a certain book, he may leave with the Librarian a post card directed to himself. As soon as the book comes to the Library, the card will be posted to the Borrower, who must apply for the book the same day that he receives the card. Printed post cards may be had of the Librarian, one penny each.

21.—The last user of a book will be held responsible for any damage found in it, unless he or she has previously pointed out the damage to the Librarian. Torn covers, leaves folded, dirtied, or torn, pencil or ink marks, writings, drawings, etc., are damages, and will be assessed by the Librarian according to the value of the work. Persons refusing to pay damages will be excluded from the privileges of the Library.

22.—Books should be taken out and returned by the borrowers themselves wherever possible. No books will be issued to irresponsible messengers who are not competent to deliver their messages and take proper care of the books. The Librarian has power to refuse to issue books to any persons whom he may deem unqualified to take due care of them.

23.—All books must be returned (irrespective of the time allowed for reading) on or before the Thursday preceding Wakes Saturday in every year, when the Library will be closed for stock-taking. Neglect to comply with this regulation will subject the borrower to the suspension or forfeiture of his ticket.

24.—Each person who wishes to obtain any book for reference must sign a “reader’s application form” for each work, and such signature shall be taken as an assent to the rules and regulations of the Library.

25.—Certain works shall be issued only by the special permission of the Librarian.

26.—Copying will be permitted, but not tracing. The use of ink is not permitted. Readers must not soil or injure the illustrations by fingering or laying their hands on them.

27.—Reference works must be consulted in the magazine room only.

28.—Intoxicated, dirty, disorderly, or offensive persons shall not be allowed on the premises.

29.—Dogs are not allowed in the building.

30.—The Librarian (or, in his absence, the Assistant in charge) shall have power to refuse a book to any borrower who shall neglect or object to comply with the rules of the Library; but any person so refused shall have liberty to appeal to the Library Committee, whose decision shall be final and binding.

NEWS AND READING ROOMS.

1.—The News and Reading Rooms shall be open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day except Sundays, Christmas Day, New Year’s Day, Good Friday, Friday in Whitsun Week, and such other days as the Committee may from time to time appoint.

2.—Intoxicated, dirty, disorderly, or otherwise offensive persons are not allowed in the rooms. Smoking and sleeping are prohibited, and refreshments are not to be consumed on the premises.

3.—No audible conversation is permitted in the rooms.

4.—No book, newspaper, magazine, or other article shall be removed from the rooms, or from the stand or table on which it is placed by the Officials, without the authority of the Librarian.

5.—Every reader is requested to keep clean any book, magazine, newspaper, or sheet that he may consult, and to avoid turning down leaves, marking with pen or pencil, or otherwise defacing them. No ink to be used at any of the tables except the one set apart for writing only.

6.—The Librarian is directed to see that the rules and regulations are carried into effect, and has power to order any person from the rooms who is not using them for the purpose for which they are intended.

7.—No person under the age of sixteen years shall be admitted to the rooms.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION

HEGINBOTTOM FREE LIBRARY

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LIBRARIAN,

FOR THE

Year ending March 17th, 1902.

Committee and Officers, 1901-1902.

CHAIRMAN :

ALDERMAN WATERHOUSE.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR REYNER.

THE MAYOR.

ALDERMAN SIDDALL.

COUNCILLORS J. ANDREW, BAINBRIDGE, PARK,
PEARSON, POLLITT, SHAW, WILSON (Delamere Street),
AND YOXALL.

HONORARY MEMBERS :

REV. J. M. CRAVEN, REV. R. MOLLOY,
AND MR. RALPH LEES.

"BOOKS" SUB-COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN :

ALDERMAN WATERHOUSE.

THE MAYOR.

COUNCILLORS PARK, PEARSON, AND REYNER.
REV. J. M. CRAVEN.

LIBRARIAN :—D. H. WADE.

SUB-LIBRARIAN :—GEO. FLETCHER.

ASSISTANTS :—CHAS. J. MELLOR, AND ERNEST OKELL
CARETAKER :— JOHN HOLLINGWORTH.

REPORT
OF THE LIBRARIAN OF THE
HEGINBOTTOM FREE LIBRARY,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

To the Chairman and Members of the Free Library Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Eighth Annual Report on the work of the Heginbottom Free Library, for the year ending March 17th, 1902.

There have been no especial changes in the work of the year, with the exception of the addition to the list of borrowers of nearly 250 of the residents of Hurst, who have taken advantage of the arrangement made with the Urban District Council of Hurst, whereby its inhabitants now enjoy the same privileges of borrowing books from the Library as those of Ashton-under-Lyne. It is pleasing to report that the grant of £50, which was made to the Library by the Urban District Council of Hurst for one year only, is to be continued for another year, thereby showing that the use the inhabitants of Hurst have made of the Library is considered satisfactory.

The total number of volumes now in the Lending and Reference Departments is 18,979. The number of volumes added since the issue of the last report amounts to 772, and the greatest care in the selection of additions to both the Lending and Reference Departments has been exercised by the Books Sub-Committee.

The total number of borrowers' tickets now in force is 2879, as against 2749 last year, an increase of 130. The total number of persons to whom tickets have been issued since September 4th, 1899, when the new ticket system was adopted, is 6,573. Under the new system of registering borrowers the tickets have to be renewed annually. Expired tickets are regularly cancelled, and the list of borrowers is more readily checked than under the three years' system, so that, although the list is constantly changing, the number of borrowers' tickets now in force may be taken as an approximate estimate of the number of persons using the Library.

Books have been issued from the Library on 290 days during the year, and the total number issued during that period is 88,195, comprising 64,924 from the Lending and 23,271 from the Reference Department. This is the largest annual issue since the Library was opened, and shows a total increase of 15,973 when compared with the issue of the previous year. The average daily issue (counting as one day Tuesday and Saturday, short days of three and eight hours respectively), is 366, or 64 more than in 1900-01.

On analysing the issue the increase of 15,973 is found to be composed of 7,429 non-fictional, 3,565 fictional, and 4,979 juvenile works. A gradually increasing popularity in all departments of the Library has been very marked during the year, and particularly during the last six months. The Juvenile Depart-

ment deserves special mention, as there is an increase of nearly 5,000 in the circulation of books from that department alone, and the issue of juvenile works has been more than doubled since it was constituted a separate department in 1899, and the Books Sub-Committee commenced purchasing books for boys and girls every month.

The issue of works of fiction and juvenile works combined amounts to 53,882, or 61 per cent. of the total number of works issued for the year, as compared with 63 per cent. for 1900-1. As many of the works included in the catalogue for boys and girls are of a non-fictional nature, it is somewhat misleading to include them in the percentage of fiction issued. Taking works of fiction issued to adults only, which amount to 37,958, the percentage works out at 43, as compared with 48 for the previous year.

At the close of the year a Fifth Supplemental Catalogue was in the printer's hands, and is now on sale at the Library. It is the usual alphabetical dictionary style of catalogue, but is printed in smaller type, with black letter subject headings, and in a more compact and economical form than the previous catalogues. It comprises the whole of the books added to the Library during the last three years, and at the rate it is at present selling will soon be out of print.

As the Fourth Supplement is already out of print, and there are only about a 100 of the general catalogues left, it will be necessary to consider at an early date the desirability of printing a new General Catalogue.

The Magazine Room is constantly overcrowded, particularly in cold and wet weather. Something should be done to improve

and increase the accommodation of this department, which, though better supplied with periodicals than many library magazine rooms, is not nearly so well used as it would be under more favourable conditions.

In concluding my report on the most successful year of the Library's work, I beg to thank the Chairman and Members of the Free Library Committee for their invariable kindness and courtesy, as well as for their willingness at all times to assist the Library Staff in increasing the popularity of the Institution.

Appended are the usual tabulated statistics as to the circulation of books, &c.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. H. WADE

Number of Volumes in Stock on March 17th, 1902.

Lending Department.

Periodicals, &c.	913
Philosophy, Theology, &c.	626
Law, Politics and Commerce	417
Philology and Literary History	77
Science, Art and Natural History	1514
Biography, Geography, History, &c.	3175
Classical and Miscellaneous Literature	932
Poetry and Drama.....	595
Fiction.....	4612
Juvenile Literature	478
Books for the Blind.....	422
	<hr/>
	13761
REFERENCE DEPARTMENT	5218
	<hr/>
TOTAL	18979
	<hr/>

Lending Department.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1901. MONTH.	Periodicals, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, Geography, History, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction	Juvenile Literature.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average. *
March 18th to 30th.	46	22		8	120	155	60	60	1668	34	2860	12	286
April	79	53	15	4	231	300	103	72	3126	1295	5278	24	278
May	78	72	19	10	244	351	103	66	3130	1271	5344	26	232
June	65	57	16	4	228	275	104	52	3025	1180	5006	24	250
July	39	39	16	8	222	232	108	60	2909	1166	4799	27	218
August	17	9	2	—	56	59	39	21	875		1391	11	155
1st to 14th.													
September	70	43	16	4	264	256	114	52	2997	1065	4881	25	232
October	85	59	39	15	301	315	151	92	3388	1283	5728	27	260
November	106	55	50	17	364	357	163	107	3625	1336	6180	26	280
December	86	49	33	17	297	298	194	78	3338	1540	5930	24	312
1902.													
January	77	61	52	10	363	360	182	102	3890	1807	6904	26	314
February	83	57	40	13	331	352	154	103	3793	1776	6702	24	335
March	41	34	24	7	233	201	92	37	2194	1058	3921	14	327
1st to 17th.													
Totals, 1901-1902	872	610	333	117	3254	3511	1567	878	37958	15824	64924	290	269
Totals, 1900-1901	763	473	315	97	2493	3116	875	509	34393	10845	53879	285	225

Reference Department.

Giving the Monthly issue in each Class, the number of Days the Library was open, Total number of Vols. Issued and Daily Average.

1901. MONTH.	Periodicals, Reports, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, History, etc.	Local and Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days Open.	* Daily Average.
March.....	161	—	7	—	508	—	1	697	12	70
18th to 30th										
April	389	—	1	—	1033	3	12	1438	24	76
May	553	1	10	—	1042	19	12	1637	26	71
June	414	—	2	—	1013	13	5	1447	24	72
July	409	—	2	—	1225	17	—	1653	27	75
August	108	5	—	—	281	16	3	413	11	46
1st to 14th										
September.....	585	3	—	6	772	6	1	1373	25	65
October	738	—	27	4	1824	—	100	2693	27	122
November	670	8	35	2	1990	61	129	2895	26	131
December	615	—	24	—	1775	—	96	2510	24	132
1902.										
January	566	2	32	1	1961	32	100	2694	26	122
February	499	2	29	—	1814	1	99	2444	24	122
March	212	5	19	—	1062	10	69	1377	14	115
1st to 17th.										
Totals 1901-1902	5939	26	183	13	16300	178	627	23 71	290	97
Totals 1900-1901	5270	33	17	7	12851	79	86	18343	285	77

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

Issues of Lending and Reference Departments combined.

1901. MONTH.	Periodicals, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, and Natural History.	Biography, Geography, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily * Average.
March.....	227	22	18	8	628	155	61	60	1668	734	3557	12	356
18th to 30th.													
April	468	53	16	4	1264	303	115	72	3126	1295	6716	24	353
May	631	73	29	10	1286	370	115	66	3130	1271	6981	26	304
June	479	57	18	4	1241	288	109	52	3025	1180	6453	24	323
July	448	39	18	8	1447	249	108	60	2909	1166	6452	27	293
August	125	14	2	—	337	75	42	21	875	313	1804	11	200
1st to 14th.													
September	655	46	16	10	1036	262	115	52	2997	1065	6254	25	298
October	823	59	66	19	2125	315	251	92	3388	1283	8421	27	383
November	776	63	85	19	2354	418	292	107	3625	1336	9075	26	413
December	701	49	57	17	2072	298	290	78	3338	1540	8440	24	444
1902.													
January	643	63	84	11	2324	392	282	102	3890	1807	9598	26	436
February	582	59	69	13	2145	353	253	103	3793	1776	9146	24	457
March	253	39	43	7	1295	211	161	37	2194	1058	5298	14	442
1st to 17th.													
Totals, 1901-1902	6311	636	521	130	19554	3689	2124	878	37958	15824	88195	290	366
Totals, 1900-1901	6033	506	332	104	15344	3195	961	509	34393	10845	72222	285	302

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

General Summary,

Lending and Reference Departments.

Volumes presented.....	199
Volumes purchased :—	
Replacements	89
Additions	572
Volumes of Societies' Publications obtained by Subscription	9
Volumes bound	96
Volumes in Stock	18979
Total number of Issues	88195
Average Daily Issue	366
Number of Borrowers enrolled since Sept. 4th, 1899...	6573
Tickets Cancelled	3694
Number of Tickets in force	2879
Overdue books written for	1349
Volumes returned from Infected Houses—Destroyed.....	3
Disinfected....	4
Books repaired by "Staff during the year	202

General Data.

Population (Census 1901)	43890
Rateable Value	£168.961
Public Libraries' Act adopted	1880
News Room (Town Hall) opened	1st August, 1881
Library (Town Hall) opened by the Mayoress (Mrs. Ely Andrew).....	25th March, 1882
Library (Town Hall) closed preparatory to the re- cataloguing and removing of books to the Hegin- bottom Free Library	22nd April, 1893
Heginbottom Technical School and Free Library formally opened by the Mayor (Alderman Ely Andrew) and Alderman Thos. Heginbottom, 1st July,	1893
Books removed from Town Hall to new Building, December,	1893
News Room opened	1st January, 1894
Issue of books re-commenced.....	19th March, 1894
Juvenile Department opened.....	14th May, 1896

Donors of Books, Pamphlets, &c.,

FREE LIBRARY.

Year ending 31st December, 1901.

v volumes. *r*. reports. *p*. pamphlets.

Agent General for New South Wales	1 <i>r</i> 6 <i>p</i>
Agent General for New Zealand	2 " <i>v</i>
Allen, Richard J.	2 <i>v</i>
Ashton-under-Lyne Co-operative Society	2 <i>r</i>
Brewster, M. Augusta (author).....	1 <i>v</i>
Briscoe, J. Potter, Esq.	1 <i>v</i>
Brown, Messrs. T. B. & Son (publishers)	1 <i>v</i>
Caledonian Railway Co.	1 <i>p</i>
Choate, Hon. J. H. (author)	1 <i>p</i>
Clare, Harcourt E., Esq.	1 <i>v</i>
Commissioner of Education, U.S.A.	2 <i>r</i>
Commissioner for Labour	7 <i>r</i>
Congregational Union	1 <i>v</i>
Controller, H.M. Stationery Office	56 <i>v</i>
Cooper, A., Esq.....	1 <i>v</i>
Derry, E. Esq. (author)	1 <i>v</i>
Durham University	1 <i>v</i>
Gerrard, John, Esq., (compiler).....	1 <i>r</i>
Hutton, R. S. Esq.	1 <i>p</i>
Joy, Thos., Esq.	1 <i>p</i>
Kershaw, James Esq., C.C.....	1 <i>v</i>

Librarian, Birmingham	1 p
Manchester Statistical Society	1 r
Mather & Crowther, Messrs. (publishers)	1 v
Medical Officer of Health (Lancashire)	1 r
Neal, John, Esq., (compiler).....	3 v
Park, Mr. Councillor, J.P.	2 v
Peck, E., Esq. (publisher)	1 v
Pownall, J. B., Esq. (Mayor of Ashton-under-Lyne)	1 r
Royal Agricultural Society	1 v
Saunders, William, Esq.	2 r
Secretary, Department of Agriculture, U.S.A.	12 p
Secretary, Owens College (Manchester)	1 v 8 p
Smithsonian Institution, U.S.A.	4 r
Southwell, Messrs. F. C. & Co. (publishers)	1 v
Steel, Richard, Esq.	1 v
Sutton, C. W., Esq.	7 p
University Correspondence College Press	1 v
Whitworth, John, Esq. (compiler)	1 p
Yate, Major A. C. (author)	1 v

Annual Reports from the following Libraries: Aberdeen, Acton, Adelaide (South Australia), Arbroath, Aston Manor, Ayr, [Bangor] (U.S.A), Barrow-in-Furness, Battersea, Bebbington, [Belfast, Birmingham, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bolton, Bootle, Brentford, Bridgeport (U.S.A.), Brighton, Bristol, Buxton, Cambridge, Cardiff, Carlisle, Cheltenham, Chiswick, Chorley, Christchurch (New Zealand), Clitheroe, Cork, Cripple-gate Institute (London), Croydon, Derby, Detroit (U.S.A.), Dewsbury, Dukinfield, Dundee, Ealing, Eastbourne, Falmouth, Finsbury, Folkestone, Fulham, Gloucester, Gosport, and Alverstoke, Great Yarmouth, Hammersmith, Hanley, Hereford,

Hindley, Holyhead, Hornsey, Hove, Hyde, Kettering, Kidderminster, Kilburn, Kingston-upon-Thames, Launceston, Leamington, Leeds, Leek, Leicester, Leyton, Limehouse, Lincoln, Liverpool, Longton, Los Angeles, Loughborough, Middlesbrough, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Norwich, Penarth, Perth, Portland (U.S.A.), Portsmouth, Preston, Redruth, Rochdale, Runcorn, St. George's-in-the-East, St. Giles, St. Helens, Salem (U.S.A.), Scranton (U.S.A.), Shoreditch, Smethwick, South Shields, Southampton, Stafford, Stirling's and Glasgow, Stoke Newington, Sunderland, Sydney (N.S.W.), Todmorden, Toronto (Canada), Tottenham, Twickenham, Tynemouth, Walsall, Walthamstow, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, Wednesbury, West Bromwich, West Ham, West Hartlepool, Westminster, Whitechapel, Whitehaven, Wigan, Wimbledon, Wolverhampton, Worcester, Workington, and York.

NEWS AND MAGAZINE ROOMS.

Blackpool Public Library Committee	"Blackpool Gazette" and "Blackpool Times."
Board of Trade	"Board of Trade Journal" and "Patent Office Journal."
Chapman, Samuel, Esq.	"Engineering." "Textile Recorder." "British Trade Journal." "Ironmongers' Chronicle." "Implement and Machinery Review."
Church of Christ.....	"Bible Advocate."
Colbeck, George, Esq.	"Two Worlds."
Co-operative Society, Working Men's	"Co-operative News."
Foster, Thos., Esq.	"Horological Journal."
Griffin & Sheard, Messrs.....	"Bible Society's Monthly Reporter."
New Church Society	"New Church Magazine."
Pownall, Mr. Councillor J. B.....	"National Church."
Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children	"Child's Guardian."
Also the Newspapers, &c. marked with an asterisk in the following list, which are presented by the Publishers.	

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, PERIODICALS
AND REVIEWS, SUPPLIED TO THE NEWS
AND READING ROOMS.

* Those papers marked with an asterisk are presented.

DAILY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Evening	Freeman's Journal
Reporter, 2 copies	Leeds Mercury
Birmingham Daily Post	Liverpool Mercury
Daily Graphic	Lloyd's List

London Daily Chronicle	Manchester Evening Mail, 2
„ Daily Mail	copies
„ Daily News	Manchester Evening News, 2
„ Daily Telegraph	copies
„ Morning Post	Manchester Guardian, 2 copies
„ Standard	Pail Mall Gazette
London Times	Scotsman
Manchester Courier, 2 copies	Sheffield Daily Telegraph
Manchester Evening Chronicle, 2 copies	Westminster Gazette
	Yorkshire Post

WEEKLY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Herald, 4 copies	* Civil Service Aspirant Clarion
Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter, 4 copies	Colliery Guardian
Athenæum	* Co-operative News
Black and White	Cotton Factory Times
* Blackpool Gazette	Country Life
* Blackpool Times	* Cyclers' News
* Board of Trade Journal	* Cycling.
Boy's Own Paper	Cyclist
British Journal of Photography	* Drapers' Record
British Weekly	Economist
Builder	Electrical Engineer
* Builders' Reporter	Engineer
* Canadian Gazette	* Engineering
Cassell's Saturday Journal	English Churchman
* Catholic Fireside	English Mechanic
Chambers's Journal	Era
Christian World	Examiner
	Exchange and Mart (Mon., Wed. and Fri.)

Field	Oldham Chronicle
Gardeners' Chronicle	* Patent Office Journal
Graphic	* Phonetic Journal
* Grocers' Review	Publishers' Circular
* Health	Punch, 2 copies
Illustrated London News	Railway Review
* Iron and Coal Trades' Review	Rock
Irish Catholic	Saturday Review
* Journal of the Society of Arts	School Guardian
Labour News	Schoolmaster
Land and Water	Schoolmistress
* Liberty Review	Sketch
Literary World	Spectator
* Local Government Chronicle	Textile Mercury
London Guardian	Truth
* London Stock Exchange Report	* Two Worlds
Manchester City News	* University Correspondent
Manchester Courier Weekly	Volunteer Service Gazette
Supplement	* Warehouseman and Draper
Manchester Weekly Times	Weekly Summary, 3 Copies
Nature	World.

MONTHLY

Antiquary	Bookseller
Army List	British Workman
Badminton Magazine	* Brotherhood
Band of Hope Review	Cassell's Family Magazine
* Bible Advocate	Century Magazine
Blackwood's Magazine	* Child's Guardian

- *Comrades
- Contemporary Review
- Cornhill Magazine
- * Cottager and Artizan
- * Educational Times
- English Illustrated Magazine
- * Foresters' Miscellany
- Fortnightly Review
- Gentleman's Magazine
- Good Words
- Harmsworth Magazine
- Harper's Monthly
- * Herald of Peace
- * Humanity
- *Insurance Agent and the Insurance Review
- * Inventor's Review
- * Journal of the Clerk of Works' Association
- Knowledge
- * Labour Gazette
- * Lancashire Faces and Places
- Leisure Hour
- Liberator
- * Liberty Review
- * Light in the Home
- Longman's Magazine
- * Machinery Market
- Macmillan's Magazine
- Magazine of Art
- * Mission Field
- * Musical Herald
- Musical Times
- * National Church
- * New Church Magazine
- Nineteenth Century
- * Old Paths
- Pail Mall Magazine
- Pearson's Magazine
- Photogram
- * Positivist Review
- Quiver
- * Returns of the Deaths of Seamen
- Review of Reviews
- Royal Magazine
- Scribner's Magazine
- Strand Magazine
- Studio
- * Sunday Advocate and National Sun lay League Record
- Temple Bar
- Textile Manufacturer
- * Textile Recorder
- * Travel
- * Vaccination Inquirer
- * Vegetarian Messenger
- Westminster Review
- Windsor Magazine
- * Zoophilist

QUARTERLY.

Edinburgh Review

Quarterly Review

Historical Review

Post Office Guide

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

Bradshaw's Guide

* London and North Western

* Caledonian

* London and South Western

* Great Central

* London, Brighton, and

* Great Eastern

South Coast

* Great Northern

* London, Chatham, and Dover

* Great Western

* Midland

* Lancashire and Yorkshire

* South Eastern

DIRECTORIES.

* Advertiser's A. B. C. Directory

* Business Directory, London and Provincial

Gore's Liverpool Directory

Kelly's Directory of Birmingham

Kelly's Directory of Cheshire

Kelly's Directory of Lancashire

Kelly's Directory of Manchester, Salford, and Suburban

Kelly's Post Office London Directory

Kelly's West Riding of Yorkshire

* London Directory (Firms and Trades)

North Western Counties Trades' Directory

* Peck's Trades' Directory, Birmingham and District

Perry's Directory of Great Britain and Ireland

* Practical Advertising

Sell's Directory of the World's Press

* Stubbs' Directory

FILES OF NEWSPAPERS.

The "Times"	from 1881 to date.
The "Manchester Guardian"	„ 1883 „
The "Manchester Courier"	„ 1887 „
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter"	„ 1860 „
The "Stalybridge Herald"	for 1888.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Herald"	from 1889 to date.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Standard,"	1860-66, 1870-83, and 1885.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne News"	from 1868-73.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION

HEGINBOTTOM FREE LIBRARY

NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LIBRARIAN,

FOR THE

Year ending March 17th, 1903.

Committee and Officers, 1902-1903.

CHAIRMAN:

ALDERMAN WATERHOUSE.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR REYNER.

THE MAYOR.

ALDERMAN SIDDALL.

COUNCILLORS J. ANDREW, BRADLEY, PARK,
PEARSON, POLLITT, SHAW, WILSON (Delamere Street).
AND YOXALL.

HONORARY MEMBERS:

REV. F. H. BURROWS, REV. J. M. CRAVEN,
REV. R. MOLLOY, AND MR. RALPH LEES.

"BOOKS" SUB-COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN:

ALDERMAN WATERHOUSE.

THE MAYOR.

COUNCILLORS PARK, PEARSON, AND REYNER.
REV. J. M. CRAVEN.

LIBRARIAN:—D. H. WADE.

SUB-LIBRARIAN:—GEO. FLETCHER.

ASSISTANTS:—R. F. MORRIS, AND ERNEST OKELL.

CARETAKER:—JOHN HOLLINGWORTH.

REPORT

OF THE LIBRARIAN OF THE

HEGINBOTTOM FREE LIBRARY,

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE,

To the Chairman and Members of the Free Library Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Ninth Annual Report on the work of the Library, covering the year ending March, 17th, 1903.

The number of books in the Library has been increased by 792 volumes, of which 252 have been presented to the Library by various donors, and the remaining 540 volumes have been acquired by purchase and by subscription to various learned societies. Every care and diligence has been exercised by the "Books" Sub-Committee to ensure that a fair proportion of the books procured by purchase should be not only interesting and instructive and of real educational value, but also that the topics of the day should be adequately represented, and that no books of a morally unhealthy character should be placed on the shelves.

In addition to the books referred to above, 343 volumes were purchased as replacements, 335 volumes of which were to replace books worn out or otherwise unfit for circulation, 2 to replace works which were found in, or returned from,

infected houses, and destroyed, and 6 to replace books which had been lost or irretrievably damaged, and were paid for by the borrowers or their guarantors.

During the previous year, 1901-1902, the increase in the number of volumes issued was phenomenally large. For the first seven months of the period covered by this report it seemed as though this year's statistics would also shew a very large increase, as the number of volumes issued during the seven months was 54,473, or, 7,835 more than were issued during the corresponding period of 1901-1902. In the eighth month, November, when readers generally begin to make use of the Library in greater numbers and more frequently, the issues commenced to diminish, and instead of an increase there was a decrease of 6,231 vols. in the last five months as compared with the corresponding months of 1901-1902. As will be seen from the tabulated statistics which follow, the total issues for the year amounted to 89,799, or, 1,604 more than the previous year. There is little doubt that the number of books issued would have been much larger but for the outbreak of smallpox in November, as in all probability, fear of infection would cause many readers to discontinue using the Free Library Books although every care was taken to avoid any risk, and the floors of the institution were disinfected twice daily.

Counting as one day, Tuesday and Saturday—which are short days of three and eight hours respectively—the Library has been open for the issue of books on 287 days, and during the year, 89,799 vols. have been issued for home reading and reference purposes, giving an average daily issue of 381 volumes, or 15 more a day than last year.

There has been a slight diminution in the issue of Juvenile Literature, doubtless due to the same cause which has affected the total issue, and it is to be hoped that the numbers will again increase as soon as the smallpox epidemic has disappeared.

The statistics of the issues when analysed shew that there has not been a preponderance of works of fiction in general circulation, for out of the total number of volumes issued, (89,799) the number of works of fiction for adults was only 27,537, or, 42 per cent., as compared with 43 per cent. in the previous year. If Juvenile Works, many of which are however non-fictional in character, are added to fiction the two issues combined would amount to 52,005 volumes, or 58 per cent. of the total issue. That there has been a marked decrease in the issue of works of fiction during the past nine years may be seen from the following comparative statement:—

In 1894-5	the percentage of fiction issued was				75
In 1895-6	"	"	"	"	72
In 1896-7	"	"	"	"	71
In 1897-8	"	"	"	"	69
In 1898-9	the percentage of fiction and juvenile works issued was				68
In 1899-1900	"	"	"	"	62
In 1900-1901	"	"	"	"	63
In 1901-1902	"	"	"	"	61
In 1902-1903	"	"	"	"	58

Borrowers' tickets to the number of 8,432 have been issued since the present ticket system was adopted in September, 1899. Of these 3,130 remain in force, an increase of 251 as compared with the number in force at the end of last year. The present

system of renewing tickets annually is much more efficient than the three years' system previously in force, as an estimate of the number of persons borrowing books from the Library can now be accurately and rapidly formed. Of the 3,130 tickets in force 79 are students' extra tickets with which only non-fictional works may be borrowed. Deducting this number from 3,130 named the actual number of persons borrowing books from the Library amounts to 3,051.

Early in the year a Fifth Supplement to the General Catalogue of the usual dictionary type was published. It is printed in smaller type and is generally more convenient and compact, and certainly more economical than the previous Catalogues. The price of this Supplement is 2d., and it has already had a large sale. The monthly lists of volumes added to the Library, are published as regularly as possible, and copies distributed free to readers.

The Hurst Urban District Council again granted the sum of £50 to enable the residents of Hurst to have the privilege of borrowing books from the Library, a privilege which has been greatly appreciated.

The number of postcards despatched to readers advising them that books in great demand had been reserved for them was 160.

Postcards giving notice that books had been kept beyond the specified period were sent to 1,344 readers. Every care was taken that the readers should understand that these notices were sent out merely as reminders, and in nearly all cases they were appreciated as such.

Though the period covered by this report does not show any large increase in the circulation of books, yet it has been by no means a period of retrogression as far as the Library proper is concerned, and in the other departments considerable improvements have been made. One of the first was the substitution of an electric motor in place of the gas engine for driving the fan, which ventilates the whole of the rooms in the building. If the air in the rooms at any time becomes over-heated or impure, the fan can be started running immediately, and made to run for any length of time during the day time; whereas, formerly, these rooms were not ventilated by the fan until the gas engine was run for lighting purposes in the evenings. The current for lighting the Library previously supplied from a dynamo driven by the same engine is now obtained from the Corporation main, as the gas engine, which was only intended to drive the fan, was one of an early type and cost too much for repairs.

The old Magazine Room has now been converted into a News Room, and the News Room into a Magazine Room. The present News Room has been decorated and electrically lighted. All the fixtures have been removed from the walls, so that everything in the room can be readily cleansed. The alteration of this room, from a sanitary point of view, is a very decided improvement on the old arrangement, and has been generally appreciated. The new Magazine Room is also being decorated and electrically lighted. Standing Magazine Racks will replace the old wall fittings in this room, and these, coupled with the electric lighting and greater air space, should render it far more suitable, healthy, and convenient for readers.

In conclusion I gratefully acknowledge that I have been at all times ably assisted in carrying out your instructions by the Library Staff who join me in thanking you most heartily for your invariable courtesy and kindness.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. H. WADE.

Number of Volumes in Stock on March 17th, 1903.

Lending Department.

Periodicals, &c.	944
Philosophy, Theology, &c.	637
Law, Politics and Commerce	434
Philology and Literary History	78
Science, Art and Natural History	1596
Biography, Geography, History, &c.	3299
Classical and Miscellaneous Literature	986
Poetry and Drama.....	612
Fiction.....	4788
Juvenile Literature	540
Books for the Blind.....	492
	<hr/>
	14406
REFERENCE DEPARTMENT	5365
	<hr/>
TOTAL	19771

Lending Department.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1902. MONTH.	Periodicals, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, Geography, History, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	* Daily Average.
March	36	25	8	3	109	123	50	24	1533	720	2631	10	329
18th to 31st.													
April	67	53	38	7	356	308	152	71	3871	1657	6580	26	313
May	74	46	26	6	386	356	96	77	3410	1441	5918	25	282
June	57	29	27	12	317	316	95	56	2845	1158	4912	22	273
July	51	48	38	9	372	320	124	54	3459	1207	5682	27	258
August	14	6	4	1	89	78	37	31	930	291	1481	10	185
1st to 14th.													
September.....	43	47	30	9	365	283	117	63	3316	1054	5327	26	254
October	55	49	45	10	382	291	113	74	3439	1182	5640	27	245
November	34	37	33	6	348	298	121	47	3219	1212	5355	25	255
December	31	41	37	18	313	296	81	47	3142	1269	5275	25	264
1903.													
January	53	48	36	6	313	316	103	67	3477	1361	5780	26	263
February	49	44	37	15	377	364	94	50	3065	1282	5377	24	269
March	26	24	13	3	224	180	58	15	1831	634	3008	14	273
1st to 17th.													
Totals, 1902-1903	590	497	372	105	3951	3529	1241	676	37537	14468	62966	287	267
Totals, 1901-1902	872	610	333	117	3254	3511	1567	878	37958	15824	64924	290	269

Reference Department.

Giving the Monthly issue in each Class, the number of Days the Library was open, Total number of Vols. Issued and Daily Average.

1902. MONTH.	Periodicals, Reports, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, History, etc.	Local and Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days Open.	* Daily Average.
March.....	133	—	10	—	76	1	42	947	10	118
18th to 31st										
April	335	6	26	—	2015	23	112	2517	26	120
May	315	—	22	—	1918	12	106	2373	25	113
June	216	5	23	1	1675	1	96	2017	22	112
July	233	2	29	1	2054	1	108	2428	27	110
August	58	4	16	1	769	5	41	894	10	112
1st to 14th										
September.....	405	—	26	18	1991	6	126	2572	26	122
October	319	12	28	—	2071	13	111	2554	27	111
November	296	22	23	18	1916	2	92	2369	25	113
December	180	33	30	41	1828	39	68	2219	25	111
1903.										
January	193	47	58	19	1983	83	58	2441	26	111
February	183	53	20	40	1844	75	57	2272	24	114
March	141	1	—	—	1082	—	6	1230	14	112
1st to 17th.										
Totals 1902-1903	3007	185	311	139	21907	261	1023	26833	287	114
Totals 1901-1902	5939	26	183	13	16300	178	627	25271	290	97

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

Issues of Lending and Reference Departments combined.

1902. MONTH.	Periodicals, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, and Natural History.	Biography, Geography, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily * Average.
March.....	169	25	18	3	870	124	92	24	1533	720	3578	10	447
18th to 31st.													
April	402	59	64	7	2371	331	264	71	3871	1657	9097	26	433
May	389	46	48	6	2304	368	202	77	3410	1441	8291	25	395
June	273	34	50	13	1992	317	191	56	2845	1158	6929	22	385
July	284	50	67	10	2426	321	232	54	3459	1207	8110	27	368
August	72	10	20	2	858	83	78	31	930	291	2375	10	297
1st to 14th													
September	448	47	56	27	2356	289	243	63	3316	1054	7899	26	376
October	374	61	73	10	2453	304	224	74	3439	1182	8194	27	356
November	330	59	56	24	2264	300	213	47	3219	1212	7724	25	368
December	211	74	67	59	2141	335	149	47	3142	1269	7494	25	375
1903.													
January	246	95	94	25	2296	399	161	67	3477	1361	8221	26	374
February	232	97	57	55	2221	439	151	50	3065	1282	7649	24	383
March	167	25	13	3	1306	180	64	15	1831	634	4238	14	385
1st to 17th.													
Totals, 1902-1903	3597	682	683	244	25858	3790	2264	676	37537	14468	89799	287	381
Totals, 1901-1902	6811	636	521	130	19554	3689	2124	878	37958	15824	88195	290	366

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

General Summary.

Lending and Reference Departments.

Volumes presented.....	252
Volumes purchased:—	
Replacements	343
Additions	533
Volumes of Societies' Publications obtained by	
Subscription	7
Volumes bound	57
Volumes in Stock	19771
Total number of Issues	89799
Average Daily Issue	381
Number of Borrowers enrolled	8432
Tickets Cancelled	5302
Tickets in force.....	3130
Overdue books written for	1344
Volumes returned from Infected Houses—Destroyed.....	2
Disinfected....	1
Books repaired by "Staff" during the year	155

General Data.

Population (Census 1901)	43890
Rateable Value	£172,187
Public Libraries' Act adopted	1880
News Room (Town Hall) opened	1st August, 1881.
Library (Town Hall) opened by the Mayoress (Mrs. Ely Andrew)	25th March, 1882
Library (Town Hall) closed preparatory to the re- cataloguing and removing of books to the Hegin- bottom Free Library	22nd April, 1893
Heginbottom Technical School and Free Library formally opened by the Mayor (Alderman Ely Andrew) and Alderman Thos. Heginbottom, 1st July, 1893	
Books removed from Town Hall to new Building, December, 1893	
News Room opened	1st January, 1894
Issue of books re-commenced.....	19th March, 1894
Juvenile Department opened.....	14th May, 1896

Donors of Books, Pamphlets, &c.

FREE LIBRARY.

Year Ending 31st December, 1902.

v volumes. *r*. reports. *p*. pamphlets.

Adams, W. A., (author)	1 <i>v</i>
Agent General for New Zealand	3 <i>r</i> 1 <i>v</i>
Agent General for Queensland	1 <i>r</i> 1 <i>r</i>
Ashton-under-Lyne Co-operative Society	4 <i>v</i>
Board of Governors, District Infirmary, Ashton-under-Lyne	1 <i>r</i>
Board of Trustees, Pratt Institute (U.S.A.)	1 <i>v</i>
British Museum Trustees	15 <i>v</i>
Brown E. (author)	1 <i>v</i>
Catlow, Mr. Councillor, Ordnance Survey Maps of Ashton-under-Lyne.	
Clare, Harcourt E., Esq.	1 <i>v</i>
Cobden Club	1 <i>r</i>
Colbeck, George (late)	2 <i>v</i>
Commissioner for Labour	3 <i>r</i>
Commissioner of Education, U.S.A.	1 <i>r</i>
Comptroller of Patents	198 <i>v</i>
Congregational Union	1 <i>v</i>
Crane & Co. (publishers)	1 <i>v</i>
Dublin University	1 <i>v</i>
Durham University	1 <i>v</i>
Elgin Public Library Committee	2 <i>p</i>
Gerrard, J. Esq., (Compiler)	1 <i>r</i>
Greenwood, Thos. Esq. (author)	1 <i>v</i>

Hall, Rev. W. C. (author)	1 v
Hannan, W. I. Esq., (author)	2 p
Hibbert, Jas. (author)	1 v
Hulton, Messrs. E. & Co.	1 v
Kelly, W. P. Esq. (author)	2 v
Kershaw, James Esq., C.C.	1 v
Librarian, Kendal	1 p
Librarian, Victoria Public Library of Western Australia	2 p
Manchester Public Library Committee ...	1 v
Manchester Statistical Society	1 r
Medical Officer of Health (Lancashire)	1 r
Mond, Mrs. F.	3 v)
Neal, John, Esq.	3 v
Neilson, R. M., Esq. (author)	1 v
Perry, W. & Co. (publishers)	1 v
Pollitt, Peter G., Esq. (author)	1 v
Royal Agricultural Society ...	1 v
Sandby, Thomas, Esq.	1 v
Saunders, Dr. William.....*	2 r
Secretary, Library Assistants' Association, N.W. Branch	1 r
Secretary, Owens College (Manchester)	1 v
Secretary, Union of Institutes	1 r
Smithsonian Institute, U.S.A.	1 v
Society of Accountants and Auditors	1 v
Stubbs Publishing Co.	1 v

Annual Reports from the following Libraries: Aberdeen, Accrington, Aston Manor, Ayr, Bangor (U.S.A), Barrow-in-Furness, Battersea, Belfast, Birmingham, Bishopsgate Foundation, Blackburn, Bolton, Bootle, Bournemouth, Brentford, Bristol, Buxton, Cambridge, Canterbury College (N.Z.),

Carlisle, Cheltenham, Colchester, Cork, Derby, Detroit (U.S.A.), Dewsbury, Dukinfield, Dundee, Dunheved, Ealing, Eastbourne, Finsbury, Fulham, Gosport and Alverstoke, Great Yarmouth, Hanley, Hindley, Holyhead, Hornsey, Hove, Hyde, Jeddburgh, Kendal, Kettering, Kidderminster, Kilburn (Willesden), Kimberley (S.A.), Kingston-upon-Thames, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, Lynn (U.S.A.), Middlesbrough, Moss Side, New South Wales, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Newhaven (U.S.A.), Norwich, Penarth, Pietermaritzburg, Plymouth, Portland (U.S.A.), Portsmouth, Redruth, Richmond (Surrey), Rochdale, Rothwell, Runcorn, St. Helens, St. Louis (U.S.A.), Salem (U.S.A.), Scranton (U.S.A.), Shoreditch, Smethwick, South Australia, Southampton, Stafford, Stirling's and Glasgow, Stoke Newington, Stratford-on-Avon, Todmorden, Toronto (Canada), Tottenham, Twickenham, Tynemouth, Walthamstow, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, Watford, Wednesbury, West Bromwich, West Ham, West Hartlepool, Westminster, Whitehaven, Widnes, Wigan, Willesden Green, Wimbledon, Windsor (Canada), and Worcester.

NEWS AND MAGAZINE ROOMS.

Blackpool Public Library Committee	"Blackpool Gazette" and "Blackpool Times."
Board of Trade	"Board of Trade Journal" and "Patent Office Journal."
Chapman, Samuel, Esq.	"Engineering."
Church of Christ.....	"Bible Advocate."
Co-operative Society, Working Men's	"Co-operative News."
Foster, Thos., Esq.	"Horological Journal."
Griffin & Sheard, Messrs.....	"Bible Society's Monthly Reporter."
New Church Society	"New Church Magazine."
Pownall, Mr. Councillor J. B.....	"National Church."
Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children	"Child's Guardian."

Also the Newspapers, &c. marked with an asterisk in the following list, which are presented by the Publishers.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, PERIODICALS
AND REVIEWS, SUPPLIED TO THE NEWS
AND READING ROOMS.

* Those papers marked with an asterisk are presented.

DAILY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Evening	London	Daily Chronicle
Reporter, 2 copies	"	Daily Mail
Birmingham Daily Post	"	Daily News
Daily Graphic	"	Daily Telegraph
Freeman's Journal	"	Morning Post
Leeds and Yorkshire Mercury	"	Standard
Liverpool Mercury	London	Times
Lloyd's List	Manchester	Courier, 2 copies

Manchester Evening Chronicle, Pall Mall Gazette
 2 copies Scotsman
 Manchester Evening News, 2 Sheffield Daily Telegraph
 copies Westminster Gazette
 Manchester Guardian, 2 copies Yorkshire Post

WEEKLY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Herald,	* Cycling.
4 copies	Cyclist
Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter,	* Drapers' Record
4 copies	Economist
Athenæum	Electrical Engineer
Black and White	* Electrical Investments
* Board of Trade Journal	Engineer
Boy's Own Paper	* Engineering
British Journal of Photography	English Churchman
British Weekly	English Mechanic
Builder	Era
* Canadian Gazette	Examiner
Cassell's Saturday Journal	Exchange and Mart (Mon.,
* Catholic Fireside	Wed. and Fri.)
Chambers's Journal	Field
Christian World	Gardeners' Chronicle
* Civil Service Aspirant	Graphic
* Civil Service Candidate	Hampstead Magazine (for the
* Civil Service Competitor	Blind)
Clarion	Illustrated London News
Colliery Guardian	Irish Catholic
* Co-operative News	* Journal of the Society of
Cotton Factory Times	Arts
Country Life	Labour News
* Cyclers' News	Land and Water

* Liberty Review	Railway Review
Literary World	Rock
* Local Government Chronicle	Saturday Review
London Guardian	School Guardian
Manchester City News	Schoolmaster
Manchester Courier Weekly Supplement	Schoolmistress
Manchester Weekly Times	Sketch
Nature	Spectator
Oldham Chronicle	Textile Mercury
* Patent Office Journal	Truth
* Phonetic Journal	* University Correspondent
Progress Magazine (for the Blind)	Volunteer Service Gazette
Publishers' Circular	Warehouseman and Draper
Punch, 2 copies	Weekly Summary (for the Blind), 3 copies
	World

MONTHLY.

Antiquary	* Children's Garden
Army List	Contemporary Review
Badminton Magazine	Cornhill Magazine
Band of Hope Review	* Cottager and Artizan
* Bible Advocate	* Educational Times
* Bible Society Monthly Reporter	English Illustrated Magazine
Blackwood's Magazine	Faces and Places
Bookseller	* Foresters' Miscellany
British Workman	Fortnightly Review
Cassell's Family Magazine	Gentleman's Magazine
Century Magazine	Good Words
Child's Guardian	Harmsworth Magazine
	Harper's Monthly

- | | |
|---|--|
| * Herald of Peace | Nineteenth Century |
| * Herald of the Golden Age | * Old Paths |
| * Horological Journal | Pail Mall Magazine |
| * Independent Methodist | * Patents |
| * Independent Methodist
Monthly | Pearson's Magazine |
| *Insurance Agent and the
Insurance Review | Photogram |
| * Journal of the Clerk of
Works' Association | * Positivist Review |
| Knowledge | * Queensland Mining Journal |
| * Labour Gazette | Quiver |
| * Ladies' League Gazette | Review of Reviews |
| Leisure Hour | Royal Magazine |
| Liberator | Scribner's Magazine |
| * Liberty Review | * State Correspondent |
| * Light in the Home | Strand Magazine |
| * Light of Reason | Studio |
| Longman's Magazine | * Sunday Advocate and National
Sunday League Record |
| * Machinery Market | Temple Bar |
| Macmillan's Magazine | Textile Manufacturer |
| Magazine of Art | * Travel |
| * Mission Field | * Traveller's Gazette |
| * Musical Herald | * Vaccination Inquirer |
| Musical Times | * Vegetarian Messenger |
| * Musician's Journal | Westminster Review |
| * National Church | Windsor Magazine |
| * New Church Magazine | * Writing Machine News |
| | * Zoophilist |
-

QUARTERLY.

Edinburgh Review	Quarterly Review
Historical Review	Post Office Guide

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

Bradshaw's Guide	* London and North Western
* Caledonian	* London and South Western
* Great Central	* London, Brighton, and
* Great Eastern	South Coast
* Great Northern	* London, Chatham, and Dover
* Great Western	* Midland
* Lancashire and Yorkshire	* South Eastern

DIRECTORIES.

- * Advertiser's A. B. C. Directory
- * Business Directory, London and Provincial
- Gore's Liverpool Directory
- Kelly's Directory of Birmingham
- Kelly's Directory of Cheshire
- Kelly's Directory of Lancashire
- Kelly's Directory of Manchester, Salford, and Suburban
- Kelly's Post Office London Directory
- Kelly's West Riding of Yorkshire
- * London Directory (Firms and Trades)
- * Macdonald's English Directory
- * Peck's Trades' Directory, Birmingham and District
- * Practical Advertising
- Sell's Directory of the World's Press
- * Stubbs' Directory

FILES OF NEWSPAPERS.

The "Times"	from 1881 to date.
The "Manchester Guardian"	„ 1883 „
The "Manchester Courier"	„ 1887 „
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter"	„ 1860 „
The "Stalybridge Herald"	for 1888.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Herald"	from 1889 to date.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Standard,"	1860-66, 1870-83. and 1885.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne News"	from 1868-73.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION

PUBLIC FREE LIBRARY

TENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LIBRARIAN,

FOR THE

Year ending March 17th, 1904.

Committee and Officers, 1903-1904.

CHAIRMAN :

ALDERMAN WATERHOUSE.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN :

FREDERICK REYNER, Esq., J.P.

THE MAYOR.

ALDERMEN HILTON AND SIDDALL.

COUNCILLORS BRADLEY, HURST, PEARSON, POLLITT,
POWNALL, SHAW, AND WILSON (Gloucester Place).

HONORARY MEMBERS :

REV. F. H. BURROWS, REV. J. M. CRAVEN,

REV. R. MOLLOY,

MESSRS. ABRAHAM PARK, J.P., AND RALPH LEES.

"BOOKS" SUB-COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN :

ALDERMAN WATERHOUSE.

THE MAYOR.

COUNCILLOR PEARSON, REV. J. M. CRAVEN,

MESSRS. ABRAHAM PARK, J.P., AND

FREDERICK REYNER, J.P.

LIBRARIAN :—GEO. FLETCHER.

SUB-LIBRARIAN :—R. F. MORRIS.

ASSISTANT :—ERNEST OKELL.

CARETAKER :—JOHN HOLLINGWORTH.

REPORT
OF THE LIBRARIAN OF THE
Public Free Library,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

To the Chairman and Members of the Free Library Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting for your information the 10th Annual Report on the work of the Library for the year ending March 17th, 1904.

The *personnel* of the Library has undergone a change during the past year. In September last Mr. D. H. Wade, who held the dual position of Librarian and Director of Technical Instruction for over ten years, and organised and re-constructed the Library on its removal to the present buildings, was offered and accepted the position of Secretary of Education for the Borough, and tendered his resignation as Librarian. Having been honoured with the appointment, I shall endeavour to merit your confidence. Mr. R. F. Morris, the Senior Assistant, was appointed Sub-Librarian.

As will be seen from a perusal of the statistical portion of this report, the issue of books from both the Lending and Reference Departments of the Library is considerably lower than that of the period covered by the previous Annual Report. A summary of the issues for each of the ten years since the Library was removed to the present building, is given herewith, from which it will be observed there has been considerable variation in the annual number of issues :—

In 1894-1895 the total issue was 54,642				
„ 1895-1896	„	„	„	61,600
„ 1896-1897	„	„	„	71,330
„ 1897-1898	„	„	„	85,006
„ 1898-1899	„	„	„	73,759
„ 1899-1900	„	„	„	65,235
„ 1900-1901	„	„	„	72,222
„ 1901-1902	„	„	„	88,195
„ 1902-1903	„	„	„	89,799
„ 1903-1904	„	„	„	80,576

It is difficult to give an explanation of the causes of this variation, but probably one reason for the decrease in the issues from the Lending Department during the last two years is the fact that smallpox has been prevalent in the Borough. There is not the least doubt that many readers ceased to use the Library simply through fear of infection, although their fears on this account are entirely groundless, as in all cases where a Library book is found in a house in which there is an infectious disease, such book is either at once destroyed or thoroughly disinfected.

The Library has been open for the issue of books on 291 days during the year, and 80,576 books have been issued for home

reading and reference purposes, giving an average daily issue of 277 volumes.

There is an increase of one per cent. in the circulation of purely fictional works. The percentage for 1902-1903 was 42, whereas for the period covered by this report it is 43. As many of the Juvenile works are of a fictional character, it is usual to add together the two classes, Juvenile and Fiction. When this is done and the statistics of the issues analysed, it is seen that the percentage is only 57, as compared with 58 in the previous year.

The total number of books now in the Library is 20,172, showing an increase of 818 volumes during the past twelve months.

The "Books" Sub-Committee has exercised great care in the selection of books for addition to the Library, and much time and trouble have been spent in the endeavour to keep the readers in touch with matters of current interest.

Our present form of borrowers' ticket was adopted in September, 1899, and since that date 10,423 tickets have been issued. There are at present 3,712 borrowers' tickets in force. Of these, 3,040 are borrowers' ordinary tickets; 110 are students' tickets, with which works of a non-fictional character only are issued; an increase of 31 as compared with the number given in the last Annual Report; 547 are juvenile tickets, and 15 the special tickets enabling students to take for home reading purposes certain works from the Reference Department.

The Urban District Council of Hurst again granted the sum £50, to enable the residents of Hurst to enjoy the same

privileges as regards the use of the Library as their neighbours resident in the Municipal Borough.

The News and Magazine Rooms still continue to be very popular. Great and beneficial changes have taken place in these rooms during the last fifteen months. As was pointed out in the last Annual Report, the old Magazine Room has been converted into a News Room and the News Room into a Magazine Room. Both rooms have now been decorated and electrically lighted. In the News Room all the newspaper stands are readily removable, thus facilitating the necessary cleaning operations, and in the Magazine Room the old wall fittings have been replaced by two oak Magazine racks. It is to be regretted that these rooms, although eminently suitable from every other point of view, are much too small. Each room has a cubic air capacity sufficient for 33 or 34 persons, but this number is exceeded daily. It is no unusual thing to count fifty or sixty persons in each room, and under these circumstances the air must of necessity become very vitiated.

A matter which will shortly require your consideration is that of the provision of a new General Catalogue of the Library. The present General Catalogue was published in 1894, and has been followed by the publication from time to time of Supplemental Catalogues. The last of these Supplements, the 5th, was published in April, 1902, and this, and the 4th Supplement, are now entirely out of print. The publication of a General Catalogue is, as you are aware, a somewhat laborious and costly undertaking, but it will be necessary to at once proceed with the work if the Library is to maintain its present high state of efficiency. It would have been well if the Committee could have seen its way to carry out the sugges-

tions made by my predecessor, Mr. Wade, who, in his Annual Reports for the years 1897-1898 and 1898-1899, advocated the setting aside each year of a small sum of money for the purpose of forming what he termed a "Catalogue Fund."

On the following pages will be found the usual statistics giving full information on the work of the Library during the past year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. FLETCHER.

Number of Volumes in Stock on March 17th, 1904.

Lending Department.

Periodicals, &c.	955
Philosophy, Theology, &c.	649
Law, Politics and Commerce	449
Philology and Literary History	81
Science, Art and Natural History	1650
Biography, Geography, History, &c.	3408
Classical and Miscellaneous Literature	1015
Poetry and Drama.....	619
Fiction.....	4718
Juvenile Literature	594
Books for the Blind.....	548
	<hr/>
	14686
REFERENCE DEPARTMENT	5486
	<hr/>
TOTAL	20172

Lending Department.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1903. MONTH.	Periodicals, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, Geography, History, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction	Juvenile Literature.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	* Daily Average.
March	18	15	12	3	197	145	49	18	1521	535	2513	12	251
18th to 31st.													
April	36	32	33	3	296	251	83	31	3079	992	4836	24	242
May	29	45	39	2	235	235	65	40	2931	994	4615	26	210
June	28	33	23	8	233	205	79	38	2624	748	4019	24	212
July	30	35	21	1	263	236	74	37	2934	743	4374	27	190
August	3	10	7	—	86	64	28	23	802	239	1262	10	158
1st to 12th & 31st.													
September	37	31	21	4	286	262	83	32	2796	699	4251	26	202
October	39	35	29	1	359	325	95	49	3491	955	5378	27	234
November	47	29	46	3	350	269	88	46	3245	1287	5410	25	258
December	52	26	36	5	286	274	94	49	3192	1272	5286	25	264
1904.													
January	30	34	35	6	291	259	86	43	3223	1105	5112	25	243
February	22	38	30	7	247	274	94	42	3289	1196	5239	25	249
March	25	31	14	5	128	138	45	21	1900	625	2932	15	244
1st to 17th.													
Totals, 1903-1904	396	394	346	48	3257	2937	963	469	35027	11390	55227	291	190
Totals, 1902-1903	590	497	372	105	3951	3529	1241	676	37537	14468	62966	287	267

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

Reference Department.

Giving the Monthly issue in each Class, the number of Days the Library was open, Total number of Vols. Issued and Daily Average.

1903. MONTH.	Periodicals, Reports, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, History, etc.	Local and Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days Open.	* Daily Average.
March.....	130	—	—	—	922	2	1	1055	12	106
18th to 31st										
April	265	1	—	—	1833	54	1	2154	24	108
May	267	3	10	2	1833	6	1	2272	26	103
June	261	3	—	—	1832	—	4	2100	24	111
July	288	2	—	—	2053	—	3	2346	27	102
August	85	2	1	—	760	—	1	849	10	106
1st to 12th & 31st.										
September.....	297	29	—	3	1998	—	—	2327	26	111
October	278	13	—	1	2059	—	1	2352	27	102
November	252	—	—	—	1915	—	—	2167	25	103
December	230	—	1	8	1900	—	—	2139	25	107
1904.										
January	239	—	—	—	1901	—	—	2140	25	102
February	241	—	—	—	1900	33	—	2174	25	104
March	130	—	—	—	1143	1	—	1274	15	106
1st to 17th.										
Totals 1903-1904	2963	53	12	14	22199	96	12	25349	291	87
Totals 1902-1903	3007	185	311	139	21907	261	1023	26833	287	114

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

Issues of Lending and Reference Departments combined.

1903. MONTH.	Periodicals, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, and Natural History.	Biography, Geography, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily * Average.
March.....	148	15	12	3	1119	147	50	18	1521	535	3568	12	357
18th to 31st.													
April	301	33	33	3	2129	305	84	31	3079	992	6990	24	350
May	296	48	49	4	2218	241	66	40	2931	994	6887	26	313
June	289	36	23	8	2065	205	83	38	2624	748	6119	24	323
July	318	37	21	1	2316	236	77	37	2934	743	6720	27	292
August	88	12	8	—	846	64	29	23	802	239	2111	10	264
1st to 12th & 31st.													
September	334	60	21	7	2284	262	83	32	2796	699	6578	26	313
October	317	48	29	2	2418	325	96	49	3491	955	7730	27	336
November	299	29	46	3	2265	269	88	46	3245	1287	7577	25	361
December	282	26	37	13	2186	274	94	49	3192	1272	7425	25	371
1904.													
January	269	34	35	6	2192	259	86	43	3223	1105	7252	25	345
February	263	38	30	7	2147	307	94	42	3289	1196	7413	25	353
March	155	31	14	5	1271	139	45	21	1900	625	4206	15	350
1st to 17th.													
Totals, 1903-1904	3359	447	358	62	25456	3033	975	469	35027	11590	80576	291	277
Totals, 1902-1903	3597	682	683	244	25858	3790	2264	676	37537	14468	89799	287	381

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

General Summary.

Lending and Reference Departments.

Volumes presented	208
Volumes purchased :—	
Replacements	219
Additions	610
Volumes of Societies' Publications obtained by	
Subscription	5
Volumes bound	42
Volumes in Stock	20172
Total number of Issues	80576
Average Daily Issue	277
Number of Borrowers enrolled	10423
Tickets Cancelled	6711
Tickets in force	3712
Overdue books written for	1540
Volumes returned from Infected Houses and Destroyed	7
Books repaired by Staff during the year	120

General Data.

Population (Census 1901)	43890
Rateable Value	£177,417
Public Libraries' Act adopted	1880
News Room (Town Hall) opened.....	1st August, 1881
Library (Town Hall) opened by the Mayoress	
(Mrs. Ely Andrew)	25th March, 1882
Library (Town Hall) closed preparatory to the re-	
cataloguing and removing of books to the Hegin-	
bottom Free Library	22nd April, 1893
Heginbottom Technical School and Free Library	
formally opened by the Mayor (Alderman Ely	
Andrew) and Alderman Thos. Heginbottom, 1st July, 1893	
Books removed from Town Hall to new Building,	
December, 1893	
News Room opened	1st January, 1894
Issue of books re-commenced	19th March, 1894
Juvenile Department opened.....	14th May, 1896

Donors of Books, Pamphlets, &c.

FREE LIBRARY.

Year Ending 31st December, 1903.

v volumes. *r*. reports. *p*. pamphlets.

Agent General for New Zealand	1 <i>p</i> 1 <i>v</i>
Agent General for Queensland	3 <i>p</i> 1 <i>v</i>
Agent General for Western Australia	2 <i>v</i>
Ashton-under-Lyne Co-operative Society	4 <i>v</i>
Board of Governors, District Infirmary, Ashton-under-Lyne	1 <i>r</i>
British Museum Trustees	12 <i>v</i>
Browne, T. B. (publishers).....	1 <i>v</i>
Choate, The Hon. Joseph H.....	3 <i>v</i>
Cobden Club	1 <i>r</i>
Commissioner for Labour	3 <i>r</i>
Commissioner of Education, U.S.A.....	2 <i>r</i>
Comptroller of Patents.....	134 <i>v</i>
Congregational Union	1 <i>v</i>
Director of Experimental Farms in Canada	4 <i>p</i> 1 <i>v</i>
Director of the Wellcome Physiological Research Laboratories	1 <i>v</i>
Durham University	1 <i>v</i>
Emigrants' Information Office	1 <i>v</i>
Government of Cape Colony	1 <i>v</i>
Great Yarmouth Corporation.....	2 <i>v</i>
Hervey, Rev. Canon	1 <i>v</i>

Hollingworth, C. B. & A. B. (publishers)	7 v
Howorth, D. F., Esq.	24 v
Kershaw, James, Esq., C.C.	1 r
Knott, Herbert, Esq.	14 v
Lancashire County Council.....	2 r
Leeds Institute	1 r
Leek Institute.....	1 r
Lord's Day Observance Society.....	1 v
Mayor and Corporation of Canterbury	1 v
Medical Officer of Health (Lancashire)	1 r
National Union of Teachers	1 v
Neal, John, Esq.....	3 v
Royal Agricultural Society... ..	1 v
Smithsonian Institution, U.S.A.	3 v
Stubbs' Publishing Co.	1 v
Sutton, Charles W., Esq., M.A.	1 v
Ulster Unitarian Christian Association.....	1 v
Wood, Sir H. Trueman	1 v

Library Reports from the following Libraries:—Aberdeen, Accrington, Acton, Aston Manor, Ayr, Bangor, Barrow-in-Furness, Barry, Battersea, Bebbington, Belfast, Birmingham, Bishopsgate Foundation, Blackburn, Bootle, Bournemouth, Brentford, Bristol, Bury, Cambridge, Cardiff, Carlisle, Cheltenham, Chiswick, Chorley, Christchurch (N.Z.), Clitheroe, Colchester, Cork, Council Bluffs (Iowa), Croydon, Darlington, Detroit (U.S.A.), Derby, Dewsbury, Dukinfield, Dundee, Ealing, Eastbourne, Fulham, Gloucester, Gosport and Alverstoke, Great Yarmouth, Hamilton (Canada), Hammersmith, Hanley, Hindley, Holyhead, Hornsey, Hove, Hyde, Kendal,

Kensal Rise, Kettering, Kidderminster, Kilburn, King William's Town (S.A.), Leeds, Leicester, Leyton, Limerick, Lincoln, Liverpool, Longton, Loughborough, Lynn (U.S.A.), Manchester, Middlesbrough, Nantwich, New South Wales, New York, Newark-on-Trent, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Penarth, Plymouth, Portland (U.S.A.), Portsmouth, Preston, Richmond (Surrey), Rochdale, Rothwell, Runcorn, St. Helens, Salem (U.S.A.), Scranton (U.S.A.), Shoreditch, Smethwick, Stafford, Stratford-on-Avon, South Australia, Southampton, Stirlings and Glasgow, Stoke Newington, Todmorden, Toronto (Canada), Tottenham, Tynemouth, Wallasey, Walthamstow, Wandsworth, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, West Bromwich, West Ham, West Hartlepool, Whitehaven, Wigan, Wolverhampton, Worcester, and Workington.

NEWS AND MAGAZINE ROOMS.

Board of Trade	“ Board of Trade Journal ” and “ Patent Office Journal.”
Chapman, Samuel, Esq.	“ Engineering.”
Church of Christ.....	“ Bible Advocate.”
Co-operative Society, Working Men’s	“ Co-operative News.”
Griffin & Sheard, Messrs.....	“ Bible Society’s Monthly Reporter.”
Mr. Councillor Hurst.....	“ Methodist Times.”
New Church Society	“ New Church Magazine.”
Pownall, Mr. Councillor J. B.....	“ National Church.”
Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children	“ Child’s Guardian.”

Also the Newspapers, &c. marked with an asterisk in the following list, which are presented by the Publishers.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, PERIODICALS
AND REVIEWS, SUPPLIED TO THE NEWS
AND READING ROOMS.

* Those papers marked with an asterisk are presented.

DAILY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Evening	London	Daily Chronicle
Reporter, 2 copies	,,	Daily Mail
Birmingham Daily Post	,,	Daily News
Daily Graphic	,,	Daily Telegraph
Freeman’s Journal	,,	Morning Post
Leeds and Yorkshire Mercury	,,	Standard
Liverpool Mercury	London	Times
Lloyd’s List	Manchester	Courier, 2 copies

Manchester Evening Chronicle, Pall Mall Gazette
 2 copies Scotsman
 Manchester Evening News, 2 Sheffield Daily Telegraph
 copies Westminster Gazette
 Manchester Guardian, 2 copies Yorkshire Post

WEEKLY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Herald,	Country Life
4 copies	* Cycling.
Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter,	* Drapers' Record
4 copies	Economist
Athenæum	Electrical Engineer
Black and White	Engineer
* Board of Trade Journal	* Engineering
Boy's Own Paper	English Mechanic
British Journal of Photography	Era
British Weekly	Examiner
Builder	Exchange and Mart (Mon
* Canadian Gazette	Wed. and Fri.)
Cassell's Saturday Journal	Field
* Catholic Times	Gardeners' Chronicle
Chambers's Journal	Graphic
Christian World	Hampstead Magazine (for the
* Civil Service Aspirant	Blind)
* Civil Service Candidate	Illustrated London News
* Civil Service Competitor	Irish Catholic
Clarion	*Journal of the Society of
Colliery Guardian	Arts
* Co-operative News	Labour News
Cotton Factory Times	Land and Water

* Liberty Review	Punch, 2 copies
Literary World	Railway Review
* Local Government Chronicle	Saturday Review
London Guardian	School Guardian
Manchester City News	Schoolmaster
Manchester Courier Weekly	Schoolmistress
Supplement	Sketch
Manchester Weekly Times	Spectator
Nature	Textile Mercury
Oldham Chronicle	Truth
* Patent Office Journal	* University Correspondent
* Phonetic Journal	Volunteer Service Gazette
Progress Magazine (for the	* Warehouseman and Draper
Blind)	World
Publishers' Circular	

MONTHLY.

Antiquary	Contemporary Review
Army List	Cornhill Magazine
Badminton Magazine	* Cottager and Artizan
Band of Hope Review	* Educational Times
* Bible Advocate	English Illustrated Magazine
* Bible Society Monthly	Faces and Places
Reporter	* Foresters' Miscellany
Blackwood's Magazine	Fortnightly Review
Bookseller	Gentleman's Magazine
British Workman	Good Words
Cassell's Family Magazine	Harmsworth Magazine
Century Magazine	Harper's Monthly
* Child's Guardian	* Herald of Peace
* Children's Garden	* Herald of the Golden Age

- | | |
|---|--|
| * Independent Methodist | * Old Paths |
| * Independent Methodist
Monthly | Pall Mall Magazine |
| * Insurance Agent and the
Insurance Review | * Patents |
| * Journal of the Clerk of
Works' Association | Pearson's Magazine |
| Knowledge | Photogram |
| * Labour Gazette | * Positivist Review |
| * Ladies' League Gazette | * Queensland Mining Journal |
| Leisure Hour | Quiver |
| Liberator | Review of Reviews |
| * Liberty Review | Royal Magazine |
| * Light in the Home | Scribner's Magazine |
| * Light of Reason | * State Correspondent |
| Longman's Magazine | Strand Magazine |
| * Machinery Market | Studio |
| Macmillan's Magazine | * Sunday Advocate and National
Sunday League Record |
| Magazine of Art | Temple Bar |
| * Mission Field | Textile Manufacturer |
| * Musical Herald | * Travel |
| Musical Times | * Traveller's Gazette |
| * Musician's Journal | * Vaccination Inquirer |
| * National Church | * Vegetarian Messenger |
| Naturalist | Westminster Review |
| * New Church Magazine | Windsor Magazine |
| Nineteenth Century | * Writing Machine News |
| | * Zoophilist |
-

QUARTERLY.

Edinburgh Review
 Historical Review

Quarterly Review
 Post Office Guide

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

Bradshaw's Guide	* London and North Western
* Caledonian	* London and South Western
* Great Central	* London, Brighton, and
* Great Eastern	South Coast
* Great Northern	* London, Chatham, and Dover
* Great Western	* Midland
* Lancashire and Yorkshire	* South Eastern

DIRECTORIES.

- * Advertiser's A. B. C. Directory
- * Business Directory, London and Provincial
- * Commercial Directory
- Gore's Liverpool Directory
- Kelly's Directory of Birmingham
- Kelly's Directory of Cheshire
- Kelly's Directory of Lancashire
- Kelly's Directory of Manchester, Salford, and Suburban
- Kelly's Post Office London Directory
- Kelly's West Riding of Yorkshire
- * London Directory (Firms and Trades)
- * Macdonald's English Directory
- * Macdonald's Scottish Directory

DIRECTORIES—(*Continued*).

- * Peck's Trades' Directory, Birmingham and District
 - * Practical Advertising
 - * Sell's Directory of the World's Press
 - * Stubbs' Directory
-

FILES OF NEWSPAPERS.

The "Times"	from 1881 to date.
The "Manchester Guardian"	,, 1883 ,,
The "Manchester Courier"	,, 1887 ,,
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter"	,, 1860 ,,
The "Stalybridge Herald"	for 1888.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Herald"	from 1889 to date.
The "Ashton Chronicle"	1848-49.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Standard,"	1860-66, 1870-83. and 1885.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne News"	from 1868-73.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION

PUBLIC FREE LIBRARY

ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LIBRARIAN,

FOR THE

Year ending March 17th, 1905.

Committee and Officers, 1904-1905

CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR REYNER.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR HURST.

THE MAYOR.

COUNCILLORS CLAYTON, HEAP, KAY, PEARSON,
POLLITT, POWNALL AND WILSON.

HONORARY MEMBERS:

REV. JOHN AUKES, REV. J. M. CRAVEN,

REV. T. W. PUGHE-MORGAN.

MESSRS. RALPH LEES AND C. H. WATERHOUSE.

"BOOKS" ETC., SUB-COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR REYNER.

THE MAYOR.

COUNCILLOR PEARSON, AND REV. J. M. CRAVEN.

LIBRARIAN :—GEO. FLETCHER.

SUB-LIBRARIAN :—R. F. MORRIS.

ASSISTANT :—ERNEST OKELL.

CARETAKER :—JOHN HOLLINGWORTH.

REPORT

OF THE LIBRARIAN OF THE

Public Free Library,

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

To the Chairman and Members of the Free Library Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the 11th Annual Report on the work of the Library for the year ending March 17th, 1905.

The total number of works now in the Library is 20,979, an increase of 807 for the past twelve months. Of these 250 have been received as donations, and 557 acquired by purchase, and subscriptions to various learned societies.

The Library has been open on 290 days during the year, and 71,130 volumes have been issued from the Lending and Reference Departments. These figures show a decrease of 9,446 in the issue as compared with that of the previous year. As mentioned in the last Annual Report there has been considerable variation in the total number of issues in each of the last eleven years. The diagrams on pages 12 and 13 of this report illustrate the rise and fall of the issues.

The percentage of fiction still keeps fairly low, and compares favourably with the percentages of fiction in other libraries. As almost every librarian has his own method of working out fiction percentages it is somewhat difficult to make a comparison between our fiction percentage and that of other towns. But the following figures may be taken as being approximately correct:—

Ashton-under-Lyne	64 per cent.
Chorley	82 „
Darlington	71 „
Dukinfield	85 „
Hyde	64 „
Oldham	75 „
Stalybridge.....	80 „

There are at present 4,782 borrowers' tickets in force. Of these 4,256 are the ordinary tickets, 175 students' tickets for non-fictional works only, an increase of 65 on the number given in the last Annual Report, 340 are Juvenile Tickets, and 16 are the special tickets enabling borrowers to take for home reading purposes certain works in the Reference Department.

The "Books, etc.," Sub-Committee has met monthly and passed lists of books for addition to the Library. It has endeavoured to cater for all classes of readers, and at the same time has exercised great care in the selection of books in order to preserve a right balance between the needs of the reader of light literature and those of the more serious-minded reader.

The stock of books for the use of the blind is being continually added to, and now numbers 571 volumes. Many of the works of Dickens and other standard authors have been purchased during recent years, and are highly appreciated by our sightless readers.

The sum of fifty pounds has been again received from the Hurst Urban District Council. By the payment of this sum annually the residents of Hurst are entitled to all the privileges of the Library.

The authorities in charge of the Dépôt of the Manchester Regiment continue their annual subscription of £5 to the Library, and a box of books is sent to the Barracks every fortnight or three weeks. It is evident from the clean and tidy state in which the books are returned that great care is taken of them by the readers and those in charge of the Barracks Library.

The popularity of the News and Magazine Rooms tends rather to increase than diminish. A great source of trouble in the News Room is the presence of betting men during the racing season. These men, who seem to be of the loafer class, monopolise a newspaper to the exclusion of every other reader. When in the room, they are continually whispering and talking in low tones to each other, and become quite a nuisance to everyone in the vicinity. In fact, during the last two or three years, letters have appeared at intervals in the columns of the local press, complaining of this nuisance and advocating the "blacking-out" of all betting news in the newspapers. Ashton-under-Lyne is not alone in being troubled by the presence of betting men in its news room. Every public news room in the country suffers more or less from this evil, and at present there appears to be a determination on the part of library authorities to suppress it as far as possible. The Library Committees of Accrington, Barry (Cardiff), Liverpool, St. Helens, Swansea, and Watford are amongst those authorities who have, within the last month or so, decided to obliterate betting news in the news rooms under their charge.

Whilst acknowledging that the presence of betting men in a news room is undesirable, it must be admitted that they have a right to be there and to consult the newspapers for their special purpose. It is only when their conduct interferes with the comfort of other readers that the Library Committee can interfere with them. And even under such circumstances, it is a moot question whether "blacking-out" betting news is a strictly legitimate proceeding. Probably the provision of fewer daily newspapers, together with the continual presence of an attendant in the reading room, would be the best means of bringing about an abatement of the nuisance.

During the last twelve months the greater part of the non-fictional side of the Lending Library has been classified under a scientific scheme of classification, in readiness for the preparation of a new general catalogue of the Library. Many works that have been considered to be "out of date," and works that deal with matters that were of merely temporary interest, have been marked for the purpose of being discarded if the Committee thinks proper. Much yet remains to be done before the work of cataloguing can be commenced.

Appended are the usual statistics giving full information on the work of the Library during the period covered by the report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. FLETCHER.

Number of Volumes in Stock on March 17th, 1905.

Lending Department.

Periodicals, &c.	973
Philosophy, Theology, &c.	724
Law, Politics and Commerce	478
Philology and Literary History	84
Science, Art and Natural History	1747
Biography, Geography, History, &c.	3606
Classical and Miscellaneous Literature	1051
Poetry and Drama.....	631
Fiction.....	4909
Juvenile Literature	684
Books for the Blind.....	571

15458

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT	5521
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TOTAL	20979
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Lending Department.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1904. MONTH.	Periodicals, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, Geography, History, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average. *
March 18th to 31st.	22	24	11	3	120	114	43	20	1515	490	2362	12	236
April	30	34	20	7	222	232	85	48	2967	913	4558	24	228
May	35	28	16	5	170	208	95	48	2739	758	4102	24	216
June	17	43	22	6	170	225	81	41	2874	718	4197	26	191
July	16	33	19	8	167	199	68	43	2546	621	3720	26	169
August	6	11	5	3	68	67	30	24	930	215	1359	14	124
2nd to 17th.													
September	29	28	20	7	193	171	75	30	2256	595	3404	23	179
October	23	40	30	10	286	273	57	55	2785	937	4496	26	204
November	22	32	31	6	236	236	54	51	2822	1007	4497	26	214
December	47	35	30	4	206	256	57	44	2839	1009	4527	25	206
1905.													
January	34	28	31	3	271	236	62	43	2800	1022	4530	25	227
February	33	36	51	11	291	268	93	60	2793	1179	4815	24	241
March	29	19	29	7	178	146	62	40	1852	743	3105	15	239
1st to 17th.													
Totals, 1904-1905	343	391	315	80	2578	2631	862	547	31718	10207	49672	290	171
Totals, 1903-1904	396	394	346	48	3257	2937	963	469	35027	11390	55227	291	190

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

Giving the Monthly issue in each Class, the number of Days the Library was open, Total number of Vols. Issued and Daily Average.

1904. MONTH.	Periodicals, Reports, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Bibliography, History, etc.	Local and Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days Open.	Daily Average. *
March.....	87	—	—	—	912	3	—	1002	12	100
18th to 31st										
April	206	—	—	—	1847	4	—	2057	24	103
May	219	—	—	—	1828	—	—	2047	24	108
June	229	—	—	—	1976	—	10	2215	26	101
July	238	8	—	—	996	2	—	1244	26	57
August	129	—	—	—	6	—	—	135	14	12
2nd to 17th.										
September.....	232	1	1	—	385	—	—	619	23	32
October	259	—	—	1	1983	1	17	2261	26	103
November	237	—	—	—	1977	—	2	2216	26	106
December	234	—	1	—	1903	—	—	2138	25	97
1905.										
January	256	—	—	—	1900	—	4	2160	25	108
February	245	2	—	—	1824	—	1	2072	24	104
March	148	—	1	—	1143	—	—	1292	15	99
1st to 17th.										
Totals 1904-1905	2719	11	3	1	18680	10	34	21458	290	74
Totals 1903-1904	2963	53	12	14	22199	96	12	25349	291	87

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

Issues of Lending and Reference Departments combined.

1904. MONTH.	Periodicals, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, and Natural History.	Biography, Geography, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average.*
March.....	109	24	11	3	1032	117	43	20	1515	490	3364	12	280
18th to 31st.													
April	236	34	20	7	2069	236	85	48	2967	913	6615	24	276
May	254	28	16	5	1998	208	95	48	2739	758	6149	24	248
June	246	43	22	6	2146	225	91	41	2874	718	6412	26	247
July	254	41	19	8	1163	201	68	43	2546	621	4964	26	191
August	135	11	5	3	74	67	30	24	930	215	1494	14	107
2nd to 17th													
September	261	29	21	7	578	171	75	30	2256	595	4023	23	175
October	282	40	30	11	2269	274	74	55	2785	937	6757	26	260
November	259	32	31	6	2213	236	56	51	2822	1007	6713	26	258
December	281	35	31	4	2109	256	57	44	2839	1009	6665	25	267
1905.													
January	290	28	31	3	2171	236	66	43	2800	1022	6690	25	268
February	278	38	51	11	2115	268	94	60	2793	1179	6887	24	287
March	177	19	30	7	1321	146	62	40	1852	743	4397	15	293
1st to 17th.													
Totals, 1904-1905	3062	402	318	81	21258	2641	896	547	31718	10207	71130	290	245
Totals, 1903-1904	3359	447	358	62	25456	3033	975	469	35027	11390	80576	291	277

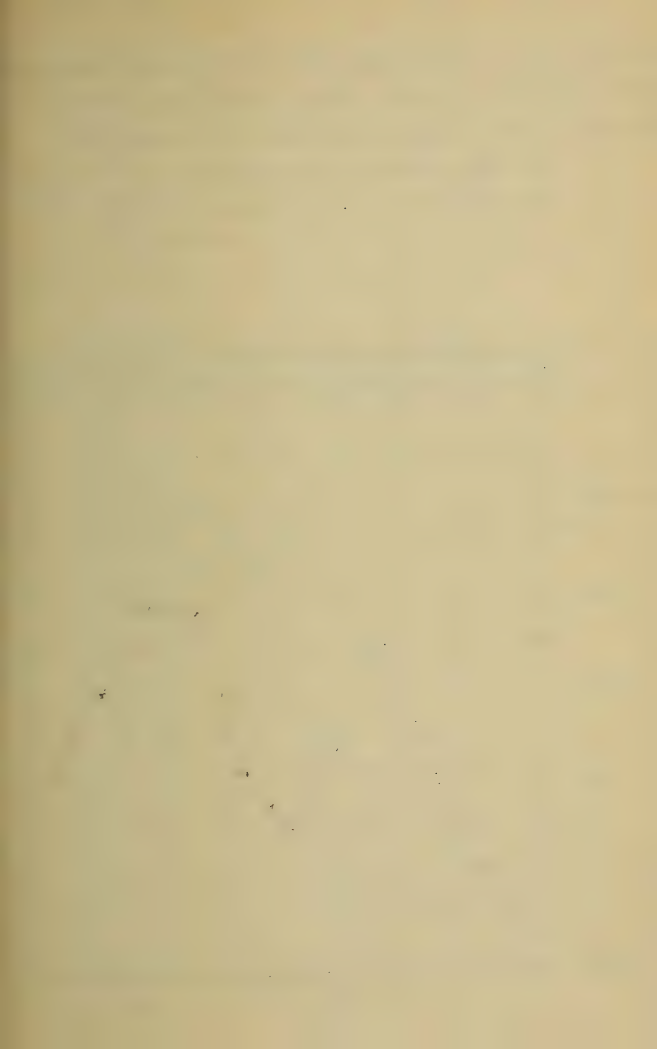


Diagram showing the total number of issues from the Lending and Reference Departments for each of
—— the last eleven years. ——

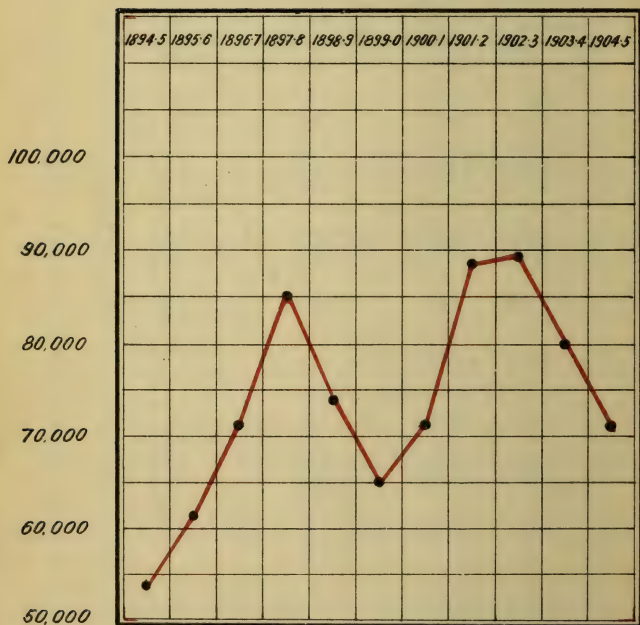
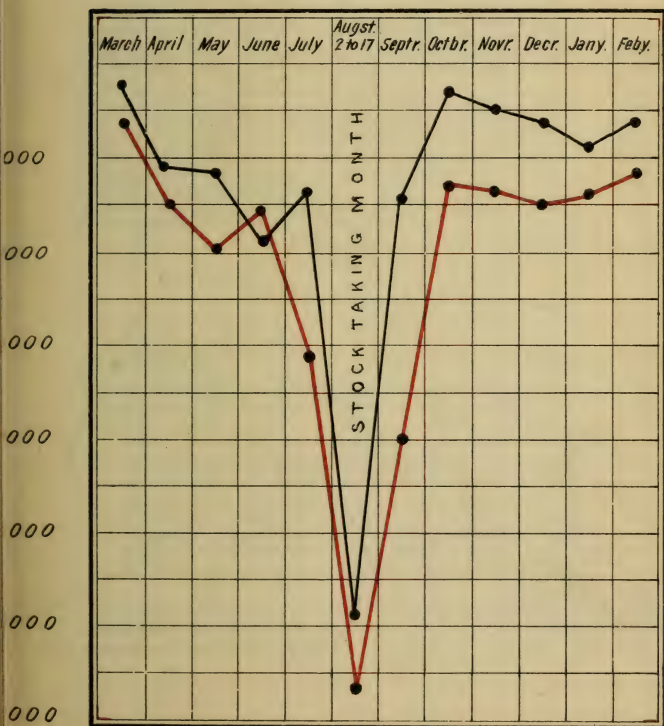


Diagram showing Monthly issue during the last two years.

Red Line:- Issue for year 1904-5.

Black Line:- " " " 1903-4.



General Summary.

Lending and Reference Departments.

Volumes presented	250
Volumes purchased:—	
Replacements	84
Additions	554
Volumes of Societies' Publications obtained by	
Subscription	3
Volumes bound	45
Volumes in Stock.....	20979
Total number of Issues	71130
Average Daily Issue	249
Number of Borrowers enrolled	12260
Tickets Cancelled	7478
Tickets in force	4782
Overdue books written for	1276
Volumes returned from Infected Houses and Destroyed	2
Books repaired by Staff during the year	105

General Data.

Population (Census 1901)	43890
Rateable Value	£183,610 8s. 0d.
Public Libraries' Act adopted	1880
News Room (Town Hall) opened.....	1st August, 1881
Library (Town Hall) opened by the Mayoress (Mrs. Ely Andrew)	25th March, 1882
Library (Town Hall) closed preparatory to the re- cataloguing and removing of books to the Hegin- bottom Free Library	22nd April, 1893
Heginbottom Technical School and Free Library formally opened by the Mayor (Alderman Ely Andrew) and Alderman Thos. Heginbottom, 1st July, 1893	
Books removed from Town Hall to new Building, December, 1893	
News Room opened	1st January, 1894
Issue of books re-commenced	19th March, 1894
Juvenile Department opened.....	14th May, 1896

Donors of Books, Pamphlets, &c.

FREE LIBRARY.

Year Ending 31st December, 1904.

v volumes. *r.* reports. *p.* pamphlets.

Agent General for New South Wales	1	<i>r</i>
Agent General for South Australia	1	<i>v</i>
Agent General for Victoria	10	<i>v</i>
Amalgamated Press, Ltd.	1	<i>v</i>
Atkey, Mrs.....	9	<i>v</i>
Baxter, Dudley, Esq.....	1	<i>v</i>
Bebbington, G. W., Esq.....	1	<i>v</i>
British Museum Trustees	8	<i>v</i>
Browne, T. B., Ltd. (publishers)	1	<i>v</i>
Choate, Hon. Joseph H.	1	<i>v</i>
Coles, John T., Esq.....	1	<i>r</i>
Commissioner for Labour	3	<i>r</i>
Comptroller of Patents.....	125	<i>v</i>
Congregational Union	1	<i>v</i>
Co-operative Wholesale Society	2	<i>v</i>
Director of Experimental Farms in Canada	5	<i>p</i> 1 <i>v</i>
Donaldson, J., Esq.	1	<i>v</i>
Dublin University.....	1	<i>v</i>
Durham University	1	<i>v</i>
English Federation of Master Cotton Spinners	2	<i>v</i>
Free Trade Union	1	<i>v</i>

Fryer, Dr. A. C.....	1 v
Gerrard, John, Esq.....	1 r
Gordon & Gotch (publishers)	1 v
Harper & Brothers	1 v
Hollingworth, C. B. & A. B.	4 v
Hurst, Mr. Councillor	8 v
Jessett, M. G., Esq.....	1 v
Layton, Chas. & Edwin (publishers)	3 v
London University	1 v
Longmans, Green & Co. (publishers)	1 v
Macmillan & Co	1 v
Marsland, Ira, Esq.	2 p
Martin, Jas., Esq.....	1 v
Mather & Crowther, Ltd. (publishers)	1 v
Medical Officer of Health for the County	1 r
N.S.P.C.C	1 v
Neal, John, Esq.....	4 v
Palmer, Chas. F., Esq.....	1 v
Paton, J. & J. (publishers).....	1 v
Percival, J. A., Esq.....	1 v
Potter, C. Esq.	1 v
Religious Tract Society	1 v
Royal Agricultural Society... ..	1 v
Smithsonian Institution, U.S.A.	1 v 1 r
Stubbs' Publishing Co.....	1 v
Sutton, C. W., Esq., M.A.....	2 v
Taylor, Robert, Esq.	1 v
Tullis, John, Esq.	1 v
Victoria University of Manchester	1 v
Wade, D. H., Esq.....	1 v
Whittaker & Co. (publishers)	1 v

Library Reports from the following Libraries:—Aberdeen, Accrington, Altrincham, Arbreath, Aston Manor, Ayr, Baltimore, Bangor (U.S.A.), Barrow-in-Furness, Barry, Battersea, Belfast, Birmingham, Bishopsgate Foundation, Blackpool, Bolton, Bootle, Bournemouth, Brighton, Bristol, Bromley, Bury, Buxton, Calcutta, Cambridge, Cardiff, Cheltenham, Chiswick, Chorley, Christchurch (N.Z.), Clitheroe, Colchester, Cork, Cripplegate, Croyden, Darlington, Detroit (U.S.A.), Derby, Dewsbury, Dukinfield, Dundee, Durban (S.A.), Ealing, Falmouth, Finsbury, Folkstone, Fulham, Gloucester, Gosport and Alverstoke, Great Yarmouth, Hamilton (Canada), Hanley, Hornsey, Hove, Hyde, Kensal Rise, Kettering, Kilburn, Kingston-upon-Thames, Leeds, Leek, Leyton, Lincoln, Longton, Lynn (U.S.A.), Manchester, Middlesborough, Nelson, New South Wales, New York, Newark-on-Trent, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Norwich, Perth, Portland (U.S.A.), Portsmouth, Preston, Providence (U.S.A.), Redruth, Richmond (Surrey), Rochdale, Runcorn, St. Bride Foundation Institute, St. Helens, St. Louis (U.S.A.), Salem (U.S.A.), Scranton (U.S.A.), Shoreditch, Smethwick, South Shields, Sowerby Bridge, Stafford, Stockport, Stratford-on-Avon, South Australia, Stirlings and Glasgow, Stoke Newington, Todmorden, Toronto (Canada), Tottenham, Twickenham, Tynemouth, Walsall, Walthamstow, Wandsworth, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, Watford, West Bromwich, West Ham, West Hartlepool, Westminster, Wigan, Willesden Green, Wimbledon, Windsor (Canada), Wolverhampton, Worcester, Workington, and York.

NEWS AND MAGAZINE ROOMS.

Board of Trade	"Board of Trade Journal" and "Patent Office Journal."
Chapman, Samuel, Esq.	"Engineering."
Church of Christ.....	"Bible Advocate."
Co-operative Society, Working Men's	"Co-operative News."
Griffin & Sheard, Messrs.....	"Bible Society's Monthly Reporter."
Hurst, Mr. Councillor	"Methodist Times."
New Church Society	"New Church Magazine."
Pownall, Mr. Councillor	"National Church."
Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children	"Child's Guardian."

Also the Newspapers, &c. marked with an asterisk in the following list, which are presented by the Publishers.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, PERIODICALS
AND REVIEWS, SUPPLIED TO THE NEWS
AND READING ROOMS.

* Those papers marked with an asterisk are presented.

DAILY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Evening	Lloyd's List
Reporter, 2 copies	London Daily Chronicle
Birmingham Daily Post	„ Daily Mail
Daily Graphic	„ Daily News
Freeman's Journal	„ Daily Telegraph
Leeds and Yorkshire Mercury	„ Morning Post
Liverpool Daily Post and	„ Standard
Mercury	„ Times

Manchester Courier, 2 copies	Pall Mall Gazette
Manchester Evening Chronicle, 2 copies	Scotsman
	Sheffield Daily Telegraph
Manchester Evening News, 2 copies	Westminster Gazette
	Yorkshire Post
Manchester Guardian, 2 copies	

WEEKLY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Herald, 4 copies	* Drapers' Record
	Electrical Engineer
Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter, 4 copies	Electrical Review
	Engineer
Athenæum	* Engineering
Black and White	English Mechanic
* Board of Trade Journal	Era
Boy's Own Paper	Examiner
British Journal of Photography	Exchange and Mart (Mon
British Weekly	Wed. and Fri.)
Builder	Field
* Canadian Gazette	Gardeners' Chronicle
* Catholic Times	Graphic
Chambers's Journal	Hampstead Magazine (for the
Christian World	Blind)
* Civil Service Aspirant	Illustrated London News
* Civil Service Candidate	Irish Catholic
* Civil Service Competitor	* Journal of the Society of Arts
Clarion	Labour News
Colliery Guardian	Land and Water
* Co-operative News	* Liberty Review
Cotton Factory Times	Literary World
Country Life	* Local Government Chronicle
* Cycling.	London Guardian

Manchester City News	Saturday Review
Manchester Courier Weekly Supplement	School Guardian
Manchester Weekly Times	Schoolmaster
Nature	Schoolmistress
Oldham Chronicle	Sketch
* Patent Office Journal	Spectator
* Phonetic Journal	T. P's. Weekly
Progress Magazine (for the Blind)	Textile Mercury
Publishers' Circular	Truth
Punch, 2 copies	* University Correspondent
Railway Review	* Warehouseman and Draper
	World

MONTHLY.

Antiquary	Contemporary Review
Army List	Cornhill Magazine
Badminton Magazine	* Cottager and Artizan
Band of Hope Review	* Educational Times
* Bible Advocate	English Illustrated Magazine
* Bible Society Monthly Reporter	Faces and Places
Blackwood's Magazine	* Foresters' Miscellany
Bookseller	Fortnightly Review
British Workman	Gentleman's Magazine
C. B. Fry's Magazine	Geographical Journal
Cassell's Family Magazine	Good Words
Century Magazine	Harmsworth Magazine
* Child's Guardian	Harper's Monthly
* Children's Garden	* Herald of Peace
* Church of England League Gazette	* Independent Methodist
	* Insurance Agent and the Insurance Review

* Journal of the Clerk of
Works' Association
Knowledge
* Labour Gazette
Leisure Hour
Liberator
* Liberty Review
* Light in the Home
* Light of Reason
Longman's Magazine
* Machinery Market
Macmillan's Magazine
* Musical Herald
Musical Times
* Musician's Journal
* National Church
Naturalist
* New Church Magazine
Nineteenth Century
* Old Paths
Pail Mall Magazine
* Patents
Pearson's Magazine

Photogram
* Positivist Review
* Queensland Mining Journal
Quiver
Review of Reviews
Royal Magazine
Scribner's Magazine
* State Correspondent
Strand Magazine
Studio
* Sunday Advocate and National
Sunday League Record
Temple Bar
Textile Manufacturer
* Travel
* Traveller's Gazette
* Vaccination Inquirer
* Vegetarian Messenger
Westminster Review
Windsor Magazine
* Writing Machine News
* Zoophilist

BI-MONTHLY.

The British Printer.

QUARTERLY.

Edinburgh Review
Hibbert Journal
Historical Review

Quarterly Review
Post Office Guide

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

Bradshaw's Guide	* London and North Western
* Caledonian	* London and South Western
* Great Central	* London, Brighton, and
* Great Eastern	South Coast
* Great Northern	* London, Chatham, and Dover
* Great Western	* Midland
* Lancashire and Yorkshire	* South Eastern

DIRECTORIES.

- * Advertiser's A. B. C. Directory
 - * Business Directory, London and Provincial
 - * Commercial Directory
 - Gore's Liverpool Directory
 - Kelly's Directory of Birmingham
 - Kelly's Directory of Cheshire
 - Kelly's Directory of Lancashire
 - Kelly's Directory of Manchester, Salford, and Suburban
 - Kelly's Post Office London Directory
 - Kelly's West Riding of Yorkshire
 - * London Directory (Firms and Trades)
 - * Macdonald's English Directory
 - * Macdonald's Scottish Directory
 - * Practical Advertising
 - * Stubbs' Directory
-

FILES OF NEWSPAPERS.

The "Times"	from 1881 to date.
The "Manchester Guardian"	„ 1883 „
The "Manchester Courier"	„ 1887 „
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter"	„ 1860 „
The "Stalybridge Herald"	for 1888.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Herald"	from 1889 to date.
The "Ashton Chronicle"	1848-49.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Standard,"	1860-66, 1870-83. and 1885.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne News"	from 1868-73.



ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION.

PUBLIC FREE LIBRARY

TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LIBRARIAN,

FOR THE

Year ending March 17th, 1906.

Committee and Officers, 1905-1906.

CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR HURST.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR WILSON.

THE MAYOR.

COUNCILLORS CLAYTON, HEGINBOTTOM, KAY,
PEARSON, POLLITT, POWNALL AND
WATERHOUSE.

HONORARY MEMBERS :

REV. JOHN AUKES, REV. J. M. CRAVEN,

REV. T. W. PUGHE-MORGAN.

MR. WILLIAM KELSALL, JUNR., AND

DR. JOHN BISSETT SMITH.

"BOOKS," ETC., SUB-COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR HURST.

THE MAYOR.

COUNCILLOR PEARSON, REV. J. M. CRAVEN, AND
DR. JOHN BISSETT SMITH.

LIBRARIAN :—GEO. FLETCHER.

SUB-LIBRARIAN :—R. F. MORRIS.

ASSISTANT :—ERNEST OKELL.

CARETAKER :—JOHN HOLLINGWORTH.

REPORT
OF THE LIBRARIAN OF THE
Public Free Library,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

To the Chairman and Members of the Free Library Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present herewith the 12th Annual Report on the work of the Library for the year ending March 17th, 1906.

The Library has been open for the issue of books on 290 days during the year, and 74,907 volumes have been issued for home reading, and reference purposes. It is pleasing to record that these figures show an increase of nearly 4,000 in the issue as compared with that of the previous year; this increase having taken place in the non-fictional and reference divisions of the Library. The issue of purely fictional works is less by 1,000 volumes than it was during the previous twelve months, and whereas the percentage of fiction during that period was 64, this year it is only 61. The average daily issue for the year 1904-5 was 245; for the period under review it is 258.

The number of books in the Library has been increased by 864 volumes, of which 593 have been acquired by purchase and subscriptions to learned societies, and 271 received as donations.

There are now 2,554 borrowers' tickets in force, and of these 2,052 are the ordinary tickets; 182 students' tickets for non-fictional works only, which is a slight increase on the figures given in the last Annual Report; 303 are juvenile tickets; and the special reference tickets number 17.

The Hurst Urban District Council and the authorities in charge of the Depôt of the Manchester Regiment, have again contributed their annual subscriptions of £50 and £5 respectively.

On the 29th May, 1905, a Sub-Committee of the Free Library Committee was appointed to consider and report upon the question of adopting the Safe-Guarded Open Access System for the Lending Department. The Sub-Committee met on various occasions, and the Open Access Libraries of Huddersfield, Brighouse, and Gorton were visited, and the opinions of the respective librarians solicited. In each case the opinion given was altogether in favour of the system, and in two of the cases the librarians had had practical experience of other systems, and were of opinion that the Open Access one was the best, and the only one that gave general satisfaction to the borrowers. Eventually, on the recommendation of the Sub-Committee, the Library Committee recommended the Town Council to sanction the adoption of the Safe-Guarded Open Access System, and this sanction was obtained on the 13th September, 1905.

The system may be briefly described as follows:—It provides for the admission, under certain safeguards, of all bona-fide borrowers to the book-shelves. The safeguards consist of two wicket gates, controlled by the staff, and through which the borrowers enter and leave the room. It is, therefore, impossible for any unauthorised person to gain access to the books, and no

borrower can leave the room without the staff being aware of the fact. Of the advantages to be derived by the readers from a closer contact with the books, there can be no question. The non-fictional side of the Library will be arranged under a special scheme of classification, whereby all the books on any particular subject will be found together at one place, and all its related subjects in close proximity. Therefore a borrower who wishes to read up any particular subject, will only need to go to the proper shelf, and will there find displayed all the literature on that subject that the Library possesses, and will thus be able to select the book that is most suitable for his particular purpose. The reader of fiction who desires to read the works of any particular author, will find these works arranged under the author's name, such names being arranged on the shelves in a strict alphabetical order.

By adopting the Open Access System, the Committee will be spared the expense of printing a new general catalogue of the Library, an undertaking that would probably cost a sum of £160 or £170. It is contended, and I think rightly so, that the books themselves, as they are arranged on the shelves, constitute the best catalogue. But, as an index to the contents of the Library, there is being prepared a catalogue on cards, and any borrower who may at first experience a slight difficulty in finding the precise location of any book, can, by turning to the card catalogue, at once find if the Library possesses the book and where it may be found on the shelves.

The Open Access System is one that is steadily growing in favour with British libraries, and seems destined to play no small part in influencing the literary tastes of the reading public. Wherever other systems have been discarded in favour of Open Access, and the new system has been given a fair trial,

it has been found that the number of persons using the library has increased, and a considerable increase in the number, and improvement in the quality of the books issued has been noted

The work of classifying, cataloguing, labelling the books, and generally preparing for the system, is being pushed on, and it is hoped that everything will be in readiness for the change about the time of the Annual Wakes Holidays.

On the 29th January, 1906, the collection of books forming the library at the Mechanics' Institute, and numbering about 7,000 volumes, was handed over to the Free Library Committee, and as the room in which the books were shelved was required for educational purposes, the examination and removal of the stock had to be undertaken at once. The catalogues were gone through by a Sub-Committee, and many of the books marked for further examination. Careful consideration will be given to these, and all that are found suitable for public library purposes will be retained. The most valuable asset in the collection is that known as "The Heginbottom Library," consisting of about six hundred and fifty volumes, which were presented to the Institute by the late Geo. Heginbottom, Esq., J.P. The majority are works of a standard nature, and many of them of a valuable character, which will enrich our own Library shelves. The whole stock has now been removed to the basement of the Public Library, and the work of classifying, cataloguing, etc., will be undertaken as soon as the arrangements in connection with the Open Access System are completed.

The usual statistics on the work of the Library during the past year will be found on the following pages.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. FLETCHER.

Number of Volumes in Stock on March 17th, 1906

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

Periodicals, &c.	1000
Philosophy, Theology, &c.	682
Law, Politics and Commerce	509
Philology and Literary History	87
Science, Art and Natural History	1834
Biography, Geography, History, &c.	3650
Classical and Miscellaneous Literature	1094
Poetry and Drama.....	659
Fiction.....	4876
Juvenile Literature	695
Books for the Blind.....	593

15679

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT	5579
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TOTAL	21258
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Lending Department.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1905. MONTH.	Periodicals, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, Geography, History, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average. *
March	18	18	18	3	115	123	38	27	1374	473	2207	12	221
18th to 31st.													
April	50	36	33	11	270	242	70	52	2532	1010	4356	23	229
May	31	23	38	7	250	237	88	54	2616	1029	4373	27	199
June	28	25	36	4	200	186	62	31	2305	881	3758	24	188
July	27	27	37	2	207	213	68	61	2325	793	3760	26	171
August	6	12	10	3	77	81	23	26	754	273	1265	13	127
1st to 16th.													
September	29	26	37	6	238	215	73	57	2404	746	3831	24	192
October	33	34	48	26	305	302	69	72	2739	963	4591	26	219
November	24	32	44	22	308	321	87	52	3010	1040	4940	26	225
December	27	27	38	15	242	269	93	38	2811	944	4504	24	214
1906.													
January	33	35	64	7	247	258	91	53	2973	931	4692	26	223
February	29	47	54	11	304	276	68	57	2892	933	4671	24	234
March	29	29	40	12	188	183	53	43	1929	578	3089	15	238
1st to 17th.													
Totals, 1905-1906	364	371	497	129	2951	2911	883	623	30714	10594	50037	290	173
Totals, 1904-1905	343	391	315	80	2578	2631	862	547	31718	10207	49672	290	171

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

Reference Department.

Giving the Monthly issue in each Class, the number of Days the Library was open, Total number of Vols. Issued and Daily Average.

1905. MONTH.	Periodicals, Reports, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, History, etc.	Local and Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days Open.	* Daily Average.
March.....	117	—	—	—	912	2	—	1031	12	103
18th to 31st										
April	231	—	—	—	1748	—	—	1979	23	104
May	287	—	—	—	2052	—	—	2339	27	106
June	244	—	—	—	1828	2	4	2078	24	104
July ..	250	—	—	—	1976	—	—	2226	26	101
August	120	—	—	—	988	—	—	1108	13	111
1st to 16th.										
September.....	222	—	—	—	1824	5	—	2051	24	103
October	246	—	—	—	1976	—	—	2222	26	106
November	261	—	—	—	1976	—	—	2237	26	102
December	232	—	—	—	1824	—	—	2056	24	98
1906.										
January	247	—	—	—	1976	—	—	2223	26	106
February	216	—	—	—	1824	—	—	2040	24	102
March	140	—	—	—	1140	—	—	1280	15	98
1st to 17th.										
Totals 1905-1906	2813	—	—	—	22044	9	4	24870	290	86
Totals 1904-1905	2719	11	3	1	18680	10	34	21458	290	74

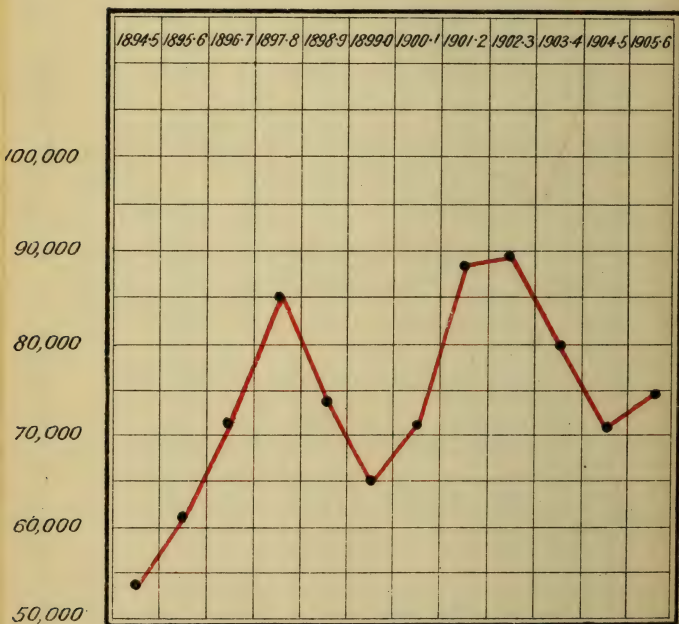
* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

Issues of Lending and Reference Departments Combined.

1905. MONTH.	Periodicals, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, and Natural History.	Biography, Geography, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average.*
March.....	135	18	18	3	1027	125	38	27	1374	473	3238	12	270
18th to 31st.													
April	281	36	33	11	2018	242	70	52	2582	1010	6335	23	275
May	318	23	38	7	2302	237	88	54	2616	1029	6712	27	249
June	272	25	36	4	2028	188	66	31	2305	881	5836	24	243
July	277	27	37	2	2183	213	68	61	2325	793	5986	26	230
August	126	12	10	3	1065	81	23	26	754	273	2373	13	183
1st to 16th													
September	251	26	37	6	2062	220	73	57	2404	746	5882	24	245
October	279	34	48	26	2281	302	69	72	2739	963	6813	26	262
November	285	32	44	22	2284	321	87	52	3010	1040	7177	26	276
December	259	27	38	15	2066	269	93	38	2811	944	6560	24	273
1906.													
January	280	35	64	7	2223	258	91	53	2973	931	6915	26	266
February	245	47	54	11	2128	276	68	57	2892	933	6711	24	280
March	169	29	40	12	1328	188	53	43	1929	578	4369	15	291
1st to 17th.													
Totals, 1905-1906	3177	371	497	129	24995	2920	887	623	30714	10594	74907	290	258
Totals, 1904-1905	3062	402	318	81	21258	2641	896	547	31718	10207	71130	290	245

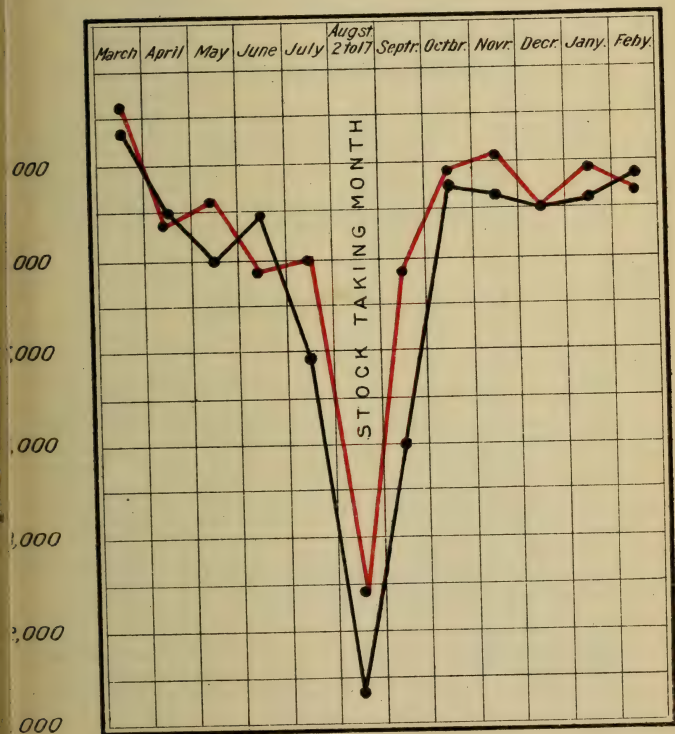
* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

Diagram showing the total number of issues from the Lending and Reference Departments for each of
—— the last twelve years. ——



the last two years.

Red Line:- Issue for year 1905-6.
Black Line:- " " " 1904-5.





General Summary.

LENDING AND REFERENCE DEPARTMENTS.

Volumes presented	271
Volumes purchased :—	
Replacements	53
Additions	587
Volumes of Societies' Publications obtained by	
Subscription	6
Volumes bound	67
Volumes in Stock	21258
Total number of Issues	74907
Average Daily Issue	258
Tickets in force	2554
Overdue books written for	1417
Volumes returned from Infected Houses and Destroyed	Nil.

General Data.

Population (Census 1901)	43890
Rateable Value	£183,617 0s. 0d.
Public Libraries' Act adopted	1880
News Room (Town Hall) opened	1st August, 1881
Library (Town Hall) opened by the Mayoress (Mrs. Ely Andrew)	25th March, 1882
Library (Town Hall) closed preparatory to the re- cataloguing and removing of books to the Hegin- bottom Free Library	22nd April, 1893
Heginbottom Technical School and Free Library formally opened by the Mayor (Alderman Ely Andrew) and Alderman Thos. Heginbottom, 1st July, 1893	
Books removed from Town Hall to new Building, December, 1893	
News Room opened	1st January, 1894
Issue of books re-commenced	19th March, 1894
Juvenile Department opened	14th May, 1896

Donors of Books, Pamphlets, &c.

FREE LIBRARY.

Year Ending 17th March, 1906.

v volumes. *r.* reports. *p.* pamphlets.

Amalgamated Press, Ltd.	1	<i>v</i>
British Museum Trustees	41	<i>v</i>
Brodie, J. A., Esq.....	1	<i>v</i>
Carson, Thos. G., Esq.....	1	<i>v</i>
Commissioner for Education, U.S.A.	2	<i>r</i>
Commissioner for Labour	3	<i>r</i>
Comptroller of Patents.....	120	<i>v</i>
Congregational Union	1	<i>v</i>
Co-operative Wholesale Societies, Ltd.	2	<i>v</i> 2 <i>r</i>
Day, Davies, & Hunt (publishers)	1	<i>v</i>
Director of Experimental Farms in Canada	1	<i>r</i>
Durham University	1	<i>v</i>
Edwards, J. Passmore, Esq.	1	<i>v</i>
Folkard, Henry T., Esq.....	1	<i>p</i>

Gerard, John, Esq.....	1 r
Griffiths, Arthur, Esq.....	1 v
Guppy, Henry, Esq., M.A.	1 r
Howorth, D. F., Esq.	72 v
Kendal Corporation	1 v
Lancashire and Cheshire Union of Institutes	1 r
Land Nationalisation Society	3 v
Layton, Chas. & Edwin (publishers)	2 v
London University Correspondence College ...	1 v
Mather & Crowther, Ltd.....	1 v
Medical Officer of Health for the County	1 r
Morgan, R., Esq.	1 p
N.S.P.C.C.	1 r
National Union of Teachers ...	1 r
Neal, John, Esq.....	4 v
Neilson, R. M., Esq.....	1 p
Paton, J. & J. (publishers).....	1 v
Royal Agricultural Society... ..	1 v
Scott, A. H., Esq., M.P.....	2 v
Sherratt & Hughes (publishers)	1 v
Smith, H. W., Esq.	2 v
Smithsonian Institution, U.S.A.	3 v
Society of Accountants and Auditors.....	1 v
Stubbs' Publishing Co., Ltd.....	1 v
Sutton, Chas. W., Esq., M.A.....	1 v
Swan, Sonnenschein & Co., Ltd.....	1 v
Timewell, Jas., Esq.....	1 p
Tutin, J. R., Esq.	2 v
Union Press, Philadelphia	1 v
Voysey, Rev. Chas., B.A.	1 v
White, Rev. H. K.	2 p 1 v

Library Reports from the following Libraries:—Aberdeen, Accrington, Acton, Altrincham, Arbroath, Aston Manor, Ayr, Baltimore, Bangor (U.S.A.), Barrow-in-Furness, Barry, Battersea, Belfast, Birmingham, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bolton, Bootle, Bournemouth, Brentford, Brierley Hill, Brighton, Bristol, Bury, Buxton, Calcutta, Cambridge, Cardiff, Chiswick, Chorley, Christchurch (N.Z.), Clitheroe, Colchester, Cork, Cripplegate, Croyden, Darlington, Derby, Detroit (U.S.A.), Devonport, Dewsbury, Dundee, Ealing, Eastbourne, Finsbury, Folkstone, Fulham, Gloucester, Gosport, and Alverstoke, Great Yarmouth, Hammersmith, Hanley, Hindley, Holyhead, Hornsey, Hove, Hyde, Kensal Rise, Kettering, Kidderminster, Kingston-upon-Thames, Leeds, Leek, Leicester, Leigh, Leyton, Limerick, Lincoln, Liverpool, Longton, Loughborough, Lynn (U.S.A.), Manchester, Middlesbrough, Minneapolis, Nelson, New Haven (U.S.A.), New South Wales, New York, Newark-on-Trent, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Norwich, Oldham, Penarth, Peoria (U.S.A.), Pittsburg (U.S.A.), Plymouth, Port Elizabeth (S.A.), Portland (U.S.A.), Portsmouth, Preston, Providence (U.S.A.), Redruth, Richmond (Surrey), Rochdale, Runcorn, St. Bride Foundation Institute, St. Helens, St. Louis (U.S.A.), Salem (U.S.A.), Scranton (U.S.A.), Shoreditch, Smethwick, South Shields, Southampton, Stafford, Stockport, Stratford-on-Avon, South Australia, Stirlings and Glasgow, Todmorden, Toronto (Canada), Tottenham, Twickenham, Tyne-mouth, Walsall, Walthamstow, Wandsworth, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, Watford, West Bromwich, West Ham, Westminster, Widnes, Wigan, Willesden Green, Wimbledon, Windsor (Canada), Worcester, and York.

NEWS AND MAGAZINE ROOMS.

Board of Trade	"Board of Trade Journal" and "Patent Office Journal."
Chapman, Samuel, Esq.	"Engineering."
Church of Christ.....	"Bible Advocate."
Co-operative Society, Working Men's	"Co-operative News" and "Millgate Monthly."
Griffin & Sheard, Messrs.....	"Bible Society's Monthly Reporter."
Grocer's Association.....	"Grocery."
Hurst, Mr. Councillor	"Methodist Times."
New Church Society	"New Church Magazine."
Pownall, Mr. Councillor	"National Church."
Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children	"Child's Guardian."

Also the Newspapers, &c. marked with an asterisk in the following list, which are presented by the Publishers.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, PERIODICALS
AND REVIEWS, SUPPLIED TO THE NEWS
AND READING ROOMS.

DAILY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Evening Reporter, 2 copies	Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury
Birmingham Daily Post	Lloyd's List
Daily Graphic	London Daily Chronicle
Freeman's Journal	„ Daily Mail
Leeds and Yorkshire Mercury	„ Daily News

London Daily Telegraph	Manchester Evening News, 2
„ Morning Post	copies
„ Standard	Manchester Guardian, 2 copies
„ Times	Pall Mall Gazette
Manchester Courier, 2 copies	Scotsman
Manchester Evening Chronicle,	Sheffield Daily Telegraph
2 copies	Westminster Gazette
	Yorkshire Post

WEEKLY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Herald,	Country Life
4 copies	* Cycling.
Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter,	* Drapers' Record
4 copies	* Electrical Engineer
Athenæum	Electrical Review
Black and White	Engineer
* Board of Trade Journal	* Engineering
Boy's Own Paper	English Mechanic
British Journal of Photography	Era
British Weekly	Examiner
Builder	Exchange and Mart (Mon.
* Canadian Gazette	Wed. and Fri.)
* Catholic Times	Field
Chambers's Journal	Gardeners' Chronicle
Christian World	Graphic
* Civil Service Aspirant	Hampstead Magazine (for the
* Civil Service Candidate	Blind)
* Civil Service Competitor	Illustrated London News
Clarion	Irish Catholic
Colliery Guardian	* Journal of the Society of Arts
* Co-operative News	Labour News
Cotton Factory Times	Land and Water

* Liberty Review	Railway Review
* Local Government Chronicle	Saturday Review
London Guardian	Schoolmaster
Manchester City News	Schoolmistress
Manchester Courier Weekly	Sketch
Supplement	Spectator
Manchester Weekly Times	T. P's. Weekly
Nature	Textile Mercury
Oldham Chronicle	Truth
* Patent Office Journal	* University Correspondent
* Phonetic Journal	* Warehouseman and Draper
Publishers' Circular	World
Punch, 2 copies	

MONTHLY.

Antiquary	* Church of England League
Army List	Gazette
Badminton Magazine	Contemporary Review
Band of Hope Review	Cornhill Magazine
* Bible Advocate	* Cottager and Artizan
* Bible Society Monthly	* Educational Times
Reporter	Esperantist
Blackwood's Magazine	Faces and Places
Bookseller	* Foresters' Miscellany
British Workman	Fortnightly Review
C. B. Fry's Magazine	Gentleman's Magazine
Cassell's Family Magazine	Geographical Journal
Century Magazine	Good Words
* Child's Guardian	Harmsworth Magazine
* Children's Garden	Harper's Monthly

- | | |
|--|---|
| * Herald of Peace | Pall Mall Magazine |
| Hora Jucunda (Magazine for the Blind) | * Patents |
| * Independent Methodist | Pearson's Magazine |
| * Insurance Agent and the Insurance Review | Photogram |
| * Journal of the Clerk of Works' Association | * Positivist Review |
| Knowledge | * Queensland Mining Journal |
| * Labour Gazette | Quiver |
| Leisure Hour | Review of Reviews |
| Liberator | Royal Magazine |
| * Liberty Review | Scribner's Magazine |
| * Light in the Home | * State Correspondent |
| * Light of Reason | Strand Magazine |
| * Machinery Market | Studio |
| Macmillan's Magazine | * Sunday Advocate and National Sunday League Record |
| * Musical Herald | Temple Bar |
| Musical Times | Textile Manufacturer |
| * Musician's Journal | * Travel |
| * National Church | * Traveller's Gazette |
| Naturalist | * Vaccination Inquirer |
| * New Church Magazine | * Vegetarian Messenger |
| Nineteenth Century | Westminster Review |
| * Old Paths | Windsor Magazine |
| | * Writing Machine News |
| | * Zoophilist |

BI-MONTHLY.

The British Printer.

QUARTERLY.

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Edinburgh Review | Quarterly Review |
| Hibbert Journal | Post Office Guide |
| Historical Review | |

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

Bradshaw's Guide	* London and North Western
* Caledonian	* London and South Western
* Great Central	* London, Brighton, and
* Great Eastern	South Coast
* Great Northern	* London, Chatham, and Dover
* Great Western	* Midland
* Lancashire and Yorkshire	* South Eastern

DIRECTORIES.

- * Advertiser's A. B. C. Directory
 - * Business Directory, London and Provincial
 - Gore's Liverpool Directory
 - Kelly's Directory of Birmingham
 - Kelly's Directory of Birmingham, Staffordshire,
Warwickshire, and Worcestershire
 - Kelly's Directory of Cheshire
 - Kelly's Directory of Lancashire
 - Kelly's Directory of Manchester, Salford, and Suburban
 - Kelly's Post Office London Directory
 - Kelly's West Riding of Yorkshire
 - * London Directory (Firms and Trades)
 - * Macdonald's English Directory
 - * Macdonald's Scottish Directory
 - * Practical Advertising
 - Sell's World's Press
 - * Stubbs' Directory
-

FILES OF NEWSPAPERS.

The "Times"	from 1881 to 1905.
The "Manchester Guardian"	„ 1883 to date.
The "Manchester Courier"	„ 1887 „
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter"	„ 1860 „
The "Stalybridge Herald"	for 1888.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Herald"	from 1889 to date.
The "Ashton Chronicle"	1848-49.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Standard,"	1860-66, 1870-83, and 1885.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne News"	from 1868-73.



ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION.

PUBLIC FREE LIBRARY

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LIBRARIAN,

FOR THE

Year ending March 16th, 1907.

Committee and Officers, 1906-1907.

CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR WILSON.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR CLAYTON.

THE MAYOR.

COUNCILLORS ANDREW, G. A. HEGINBOTTOM,
T. HEGINBOTTOM, KAY, PEARSON, POLLITT,
TOWNALL AND WATERHOUSE.

HONORARY MEMBERS:

REV. J. M. CRAVEN, REV. J. MANNING,
REV. T. W. PUGHE-MORGAN, JOSEPH HURST, Esq.,
DR. JOHN BISSETT SMITH.

"BOOKS," ETC., SUB-COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR WILSON.

THE MAYOR.

COUNCILLORS PEARSON AND WATERHOUSE
REV. J. M. CRAVEN AND DR. J. BISSETT SMITH.

LIBRARIAN:

GEO. FLETCHER.

SUB-LIBRARIAN:

R. F. MORRIS.

ASSISTANTS:

ERNEST OKELL AND HAROLD WHITEHEAD.

CARETAKER:

JOHN HOLLINGWORTH.

REPORT

OF THE LIBRARIAN OF THE

Public Free Library,

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

To the Chairman and Members of the Free Library Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the 13th Annual Report on the work of the Library for the year ending the 16th March, 1907.

This has been a somewhat eventful year in the history of the Library. When the Committee decided to adopt the Open Access System, it was realised that the work of re-organising the whole of the Lending Library must be undertaken first, in order that the system might be given a fair trial; and, to obviate as much inconvenience to the borrowers as possible, the greater part of the arranging, classification, re-cataloguing and labelling of the books was carried out without closing the Library. But, as there were certain structural alterations to be made, the issue of books to borrowers ceased on the 31st of July, 1906, and the work of altering the old shelving, building up the new and reconstructing the counter, was at once put in hand. The opportunity was also taken to paint and decorate the room and its approach. Finally, the books were arranged on the shelves in their new order, and on the 1st of November, 1906, the Library was opened to the public on the Open Access System.

As the system was such a complete change from anything hitherto in use, and as the borrowers were now free to go to the shelves and handle the books as they wished, even the most sanguine of the system's supporters were a little apprehensive of the result. It was feared among other things that there would be some confusion at first, by reason of the borrowers not knowing where to find the books they wished to read, and misplacing any that they took from the shelves. But after a five months' trial it has been found that such fears were entirely groundless. It is really surprising how smoothly everything has worked; the borrowers move about the room very quietly, and, after one or two visits, usually go straight to the shelves containing the books in which they are interested. The book shelves are gone over every morning, but very few misplaced books are found, the greatest number of such misplacements being found in the Juvenile Section.

The number of persons using the Library already exceeds the number using it previous to its being closed, and, judging by the comments made and the very large increase in the number, together with the satisfactory improvement in the issue of works of a non-fictional character, the adoption of the system has been, from every point of view, an unqualified success.

The Library has been open for the issue of books on 225 days during the year, and 61,207 volumes have been issued for home reading and reference purposes. Although the Library was closed for three months, the issue of books from the Lending Library is less than that of the previous year by only 3,500. If the period during which the Library has been open on the new system, viz., from November 1st to March 16th, is compared with the corresponding period of 1905-6, it will be

seen that there has been an increase of 7,315 volumes in the issue. On analysing these figures, it is seen that the increase has been in the

Non-Fictional Section	1,306
Fictional Section	1,909
Juvenile Section... ..	4,100

The average daily issue for the same period works out at 256, as compared with 190 for the corresponding period of 1905-6. The chart on pages 13-14 shows more clearly than any words of mine the great increase that has taken place.

There are now 2,671 borrowers' tickets in force, as compared with 2,554 in March, 1906; 1,965 of these being ordinary tickets, 198 students' tickets for works of a non-fictional character, an increase of 16 on last year's figures; juvenile readers number 502, an increase of 199 on last year; and there are 6 of the special reference tickets.

During the re-organisation of the Library, the opportunity was taken to weed out many books, especially in the fiction class, which were considered to be of an ephemeral character, out of date, incomplete, or too dirty for further circulation. The latter class included many standard works of fiction, and these have been replaced by new copies as far as possible. The total number of volumes now in the two departments, Lending and Reference, is 17,156.

The annual subscriptions of £50 and £5 have again been received from the Hurst Urban District Council and the authorities in charge of the Dépôt of the Manchester Regiment respectively.

During the year under review, every effort has been made to encourage the residents of the town to use the Library. The charging of 1d. for the borrower's ticket has ceased; the

age limit for juvenile readers has been altered from 16 to 14; the keeping open of the Library all day on Tuesdays instead of closing at 1 p.m., as formerly, has been tried by way of an experiment; and last, but not least, the list of new books added monthly to the Library now appears in the columns of the local papers. In this list the books are catalogued under their subjects, and in many cases a short note descriptive of the book is given. Arrangements have also been made with the proprietors of one of the newspapers to make up the matter afterwards into page form, and supply 1,000 reprints monthly; these reprints being distributed gratis to the borrowers. The reprints can be used as book marks, and the whole arrangement has been a decided boon to the borrowers. Our thanks are due to the editors of the two newspapers for their great kindness in publishing the lists.

The keeping open of the Library on Tuesdays was tried by way of experiment, as it was thought that Tuesday afternoon, being the tradesmen's half-holiday, many persons might care to visit the Library on the day when they had the most leisure, but, after a three months' experience of the innovation, it was found that a large proportion of the visitors on that day were juveniles and persons who could come at any time. It has therefore been decided to close at 1 p.m. on Tuesdays as formerly.

I cannot close this report without thanking the Chairman and members of the Committee for the interest they have at all times shown in the work of the Library, and my thanks are also due to my assistants for the help they have cheerfully and ungrudgingly rendered during a somewhat arduous year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. FLETCHER.

Number of Volumes in Stock on March 16th, 1907.

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

Sciences	776
Useful Arts	459
Fine and Recreative Arts.....	470
Social and Political Science.....	466
Philosophy and Religion	571
History and Geography.....	2181
Biography and Correspondence	1253
Language and Literature	423
Poetry and Drama	694
Prose Fiction	2158
Juvenile Literature.....	977
Miscellaneous	486
	<u>10914</u>
REFERENCE DEPARTMENT	6242

TOTAL..... 17156

Lending Department.

OLD CLASSIFICATION.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1903. MONTH.	Periodicals, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, Geography, History, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average.
March	30	30	38	13	118	140	46	25	1381	448	2269	12	227
19th to 31st.	24	40	49	19	273	251	80	39	2474	781	4030	23	212
April	34	46	43	14	285	271	97	41	2864	878	4573	27	208
May	26	33	38	18	173	192	62	34	2254	710	3540	24	177
June	9	27	24	7	166	178	47	32	1860	555	2905	25	138
July													
	123	176	192	71	1015	1632	332	171	10833	3372	17317	111	156

Lending Department.

NEW CLASSIFICATION.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1906. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspondence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Prose Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average.
November ...	179	138	149	77	69	212	85	56	40	2823	1588	75	5491	26	250
December ...	186	131	163	82	62	255	96	51	44	3303	2216	91	6680	24	278
1907. January.....	133	137	158	76	66	306	92	62	73	3787	2120	103	7113	26	274
February ...	134	148	158	79	51	272	82	53	48	3480	1690	78	6273	24	261
March 1st to 16th.	99	90	94	48	28	159	58	44	30	2031	912	61	3654	14	261
	731	644	722	362	276	1204	413	266	235	15424	8526	48	29211	114	256

Reference Department.

OLD CLASSIFICATION.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1906. MONTH.	Periodicals, Reports, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics, and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, etc.	Biography, History, etc.	Local and Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average.
March.....	113	—	—	—	912	—	—	1025	12	103
19th to 31st	209	—	1	—	1748	—	—	1958	23	103
April	259	—	—	—	2052	—	—	2311	27	105
May	235	—	—	—	1824	—	—	2059	24	103
June	268	—	—	—	1905	—	—	2173	25	103
July	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1084	—	1	—	8441	—	—	9526	111	86

Reference Department.

NEW CLASSIFICATION.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols Issued, and Daily Average.

1906. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts.	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspond- ence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average.
November ...	—	—	1748	—	—	—	—	—	—	305	2053	26	93
December ...	—	—	423	—	—	—	—	—	—	340	763	24	32
1907.													
January, ...	—	—	513	—	—	6	—	—	—	388	907	26	35
February ...	—	—	469	—	—	—	—	—	—	434	903	24	38
March 1st to 17th.	—	—	269	—	—	—	—	—	—	258	527	14	38
	—	—	3422	—	—	6	—	—	—	1725	5153	114	45

Lending and Reference Departments Combined.

OLD CLASSIFICATION.

1906. MONTH.	Periodicals, etc.	Philosophy, Theology, etc.	Law, Politics and Commerce.	Philology and Literary History.	Science, Art, and Natural History.	Biography, Geography, etc.	Classical and Miscellaneous.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average.
March.....	143	30	38	13	1030	140	46	25	1381	448	3294	12	275
19th to 31st.	233	40	50	19	2021	251	80	39	2474	781	5988	23	260
April	293	46	43	14	2337	271	97	41	2864	878	6884	27	255
May	261	33	38	18	1997	192	62	34	2254	710	5599	24	233
June	277	27	24	7	2071	178	47	32	1860	555	5078	25	203
July													
	1207	176	193	71	9456	1032	332	.171	10833	3372	26843	111	242

ast two years.

s:-1905-6.

6000

7000

8000

March

April

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

December

January

February

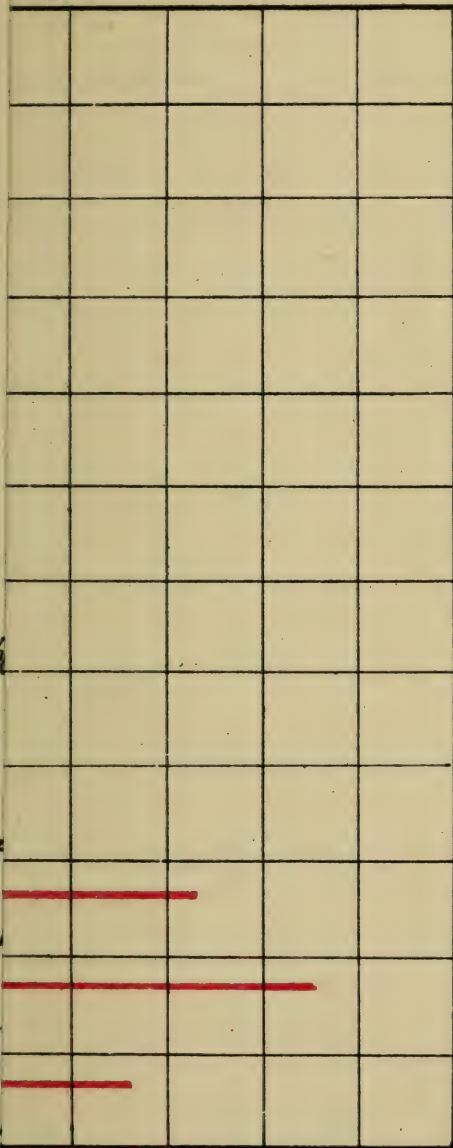
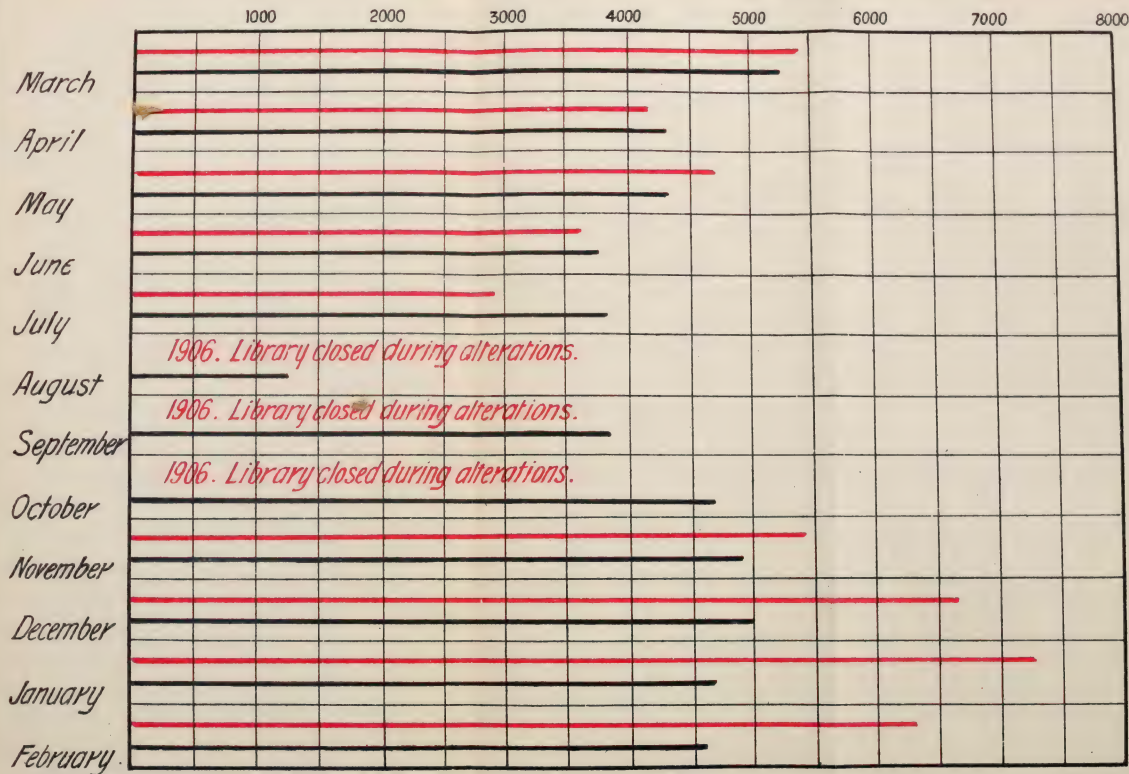


Diagram showing monthly issue during the Last two years.

Red Lines:- 1906.7

Black Lines:-1905.6.



Lending and Reference Departments Combined.

NEW CLASSIFICATION.

1906. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts	Fine and Recreative Arts	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspond- ence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction. Prose	Juvenile Literature.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average.
November ...	1927	138	149	77	69	212	85	56	40	2823	1588	380	7544	26	290
December ...	609	131	163	82	62	255	96	51	44	3303	2216	431	7443	24	310
1907.															
January	646	137	158	76	66	312	92	62	73	3787	2120	491	8020	26	308
February ...	603	148	158	79	51	272	82	53	48	3480	1690	512	7176	24	299
March	368	90	94	48	28	159	58	44	30	2031	912	319	4181	14	294
1st to 16th.															
	4153	644	722	362	276	1210	413	266	235	15424	8526	2133	34364	114	301

General Summary.

LENDING AND REFERENCE DEPARTMENTS.

Volumes presented	113
Volumes purchased:—	
Replacements	334
Additions	335
Volumes of Societies' Publications obtained by Subscription	4
Volumes bound	410
Volumes in Stock	17156
Total number of Issues	61207
Average Daily Issue	272
Tickets in force	2665
Overdue books written for	1365
Volumes returned from Infected Houses and Destroyed	Nil.

General Data.

Population (Census 1901)	43890
Rateable Value	£188,571 1s. 0d.
Public Libraries' Act adopted	1880
News Room (Town Hall) opened	1st August, 1881
Library (Town Hall) opened by the Mayoress (Mrs. Ely Andrew)	25th March, 1882
Library (Town Hall) closed preparatory to the re- cataloguing and removing of books to the Hegin- bottom Free Library	22nd April, 1893
Heginbottom Technical School and Free Library formally opened by the Mayor (Alderman Ely Andrew) and Alderman Thos. Heginbottom, 1st July, 1893	
Books removed from Town Hall to new Building, December, 1893	
News Room opened	1st January, 1894
Issue of books re-commenced	19th March, 1894
Juvenile Department opened	14th May, 1896
Library closed for alterations preparatory to the adop- tion of the Open Access System	31st July, 1906
Library opened on the Open Access System, 1st November, 1906	

Donors of Books, Pamphlets, &c.

Year Ending 16th March, 1907.

v volumes. *r*. reports. *p*. pamphlets.

Alldrige, T. J. Esq.....	1	<i>v</i>
Amalgamated Press, Ltd.	1	<i>v</i>
Ashton & District Cotton Employers' Association.....	1	<i>v</i>
Board of Agriculture	1	<i>r</i>
Bridge, Jas. H. Esq.....	1	<i>v</i>
Briscoe, J. Potter Esq. F.R.S.L.....	1	<i>v</i> 5 <i>p</i>
British Museum Trustees	5	<i>v</i>
Co-operative Wholesale Societies, Ltd.	2	<i>v</i>
Congregational Union	1	<i>v</i>
Commissioner for Labour	3	<i>r</i>
Commissioner for Education, U.S.A.	1	<i>v</i>
Comptroller of Patents.....	112	<i>v</i>
Director of Experimental Farms in Canada	1	<i>r</i>
Durham University	1	<i>v</i>
Gerrard, John, Esq.....	1	<i>r</i>
Guppy, Henry, Esq., M.A.	2	<i>v</i>

Heginbottom, Mr. Councillor T.	4 v
High Commissioner for New Zealand....	1 r
Hill, Samuel Esq.	3 p
Incorporated Society of Musicians	1 v
L. & N. W. Railway Co.	1 v
Layton, Messrs. C. & E.	2 v
Library Assistants' Association	2 r
London University Correspondence College ...	1 v
Mather & Crowther, Ltd.....	1 v
Medical Officer of Health for the County	1 r
National Union of Teachers ...	1 v
Neal, John, Esq.....	2 v
North Eastern Railway Co.....	2 v 1 p
Paton, Messrs. J. & J.....	1 v
Pratt, Edwin A. Esq.....	1 v
Royal Agricultural Society... ..	1 v
Shrewsbury Corporation.....	1 v
Smithsonian Institution, U.S.A.	2 v
Society of Accountants and Auditors.....	1 v
Stubbs' Publishing Co., Ltd.....	1 v
Sutton, Chas. W., Esq., M.A.....	1 v
Tulk, Augustus Esq.....	1 v
Urquhart, Jas. Esq.....	1 v
Victoria University of Manchester	1 v
Volta Bureau, U.S.A.	1 r 2 p
Walmsley, Ben. Esq.....	1 v
Watson, C. M. Esq.	1 v

Annual Reports from the following Libraries:—Aberdeen, Accrington, Acton, Altrincham, Acton Manor, Baltimore, Bangor (U.S.A.), Barnsley, Barrow-in-Furness, Barry, Battersea, Belfast, Birmingham, Bishopsgate-Foundation-Institute, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bolton, Bootle, Bournemouth, Brentford, Brierley Hill, Brighton, Bristol, Bury, Buxton, Calcutta, Cambridge, Cardiff, Chicago (U.S.A.), Chiswick, Chorley, Christchurch (N.Z.), Clitheroe, Colchester, Cork, Cripplegate, Croydon, Darlington, Derby, Detroit (U.S.A.), Dewsbury, Dukinfield, Dundee, Ealing, East London, S.A., Eastbourne, Eccles, Fall River (U.S.A.), Folkstone, Gloucester, Gosport, and Alverstoke, Great Yarmouth, Hammersmith, Hanley, Hindley, Hornsey, Hove, Hyde, Ipswich, Kettering, Kidderminster, Kingston-upon-Thames, Leeds, Leigh, Leyton, Limerick, Lincoln, Liverpool, Longton, Loughborough, Manchester, Middlesborough, Minneapolis, Nelson, New Haven (U.S.A.), New South Wales, New York, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Norwich, Nottingham, Oldbury, Oldham, Penarth, Perth, Plymouth, Portland (U.S.A.), Portsmouth, Preston, Providence (U.S.A.), Richmond (Surrey), Rochdale, Rothwell, Rugby, Runcorn, St. Bride Foundation Institute, St. Helens, St. Louis (U.S.A.), Salem (U.S.A.), Scranton (U.S.A.), Shore-ditch, Smethwick, South Australia, South Shields, Sowerby Bridge, Stafford, Stirling's and Glasgow, Stockport, Stoke Newington, Stratford-on-Avon, Toronto (Canada), Tottenham, Tynemouth, Walthamstow, Wandsworth, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, Watford, West Bromwich, Western-super-Mare, Westminster, Whitehaven, Widnes, Wigan, Willesden Green, Wimbledon, Windsor (Canada), Wolverhampton, and Worcester.

News and Magazine Rooms.

Chapman, Samuel, Esq.	"Engineering."
Church of Christ.....	"Bible Advocate."
Co-operative Society, Working Men's	"Co-operative News" and "Millgate Monthly."
Griffin & Sheard, Messrs.....	"Bible Society's Monthly Reporter."
Hurst, Joseph, Esq.	"Methodist Times."
New Church Society	"New Church Magazine."
Pownall, Mr. Councillor ...	"National Church."
Also the Newspapers, &c. marked with an asterisk in the following list, which are presented by the Publishers.	

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, PERIODICALS AND REVIEWS, SUPPLIED TO THE NEWS AND READING ROOMS.

DAILY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Evening	Lloyd's List
Reporter, 2 copies	London Daily Mail
Birmingham Daily Post	„ Daily News
Daily Graphic	London Daily Telegraph
Freeman's Journal	„ Morning Post
Glasgow Herald	„ Times
Leeds and Yorkshire Mercury	Manchester Courier, 2 copies
Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury	Manchester Evening Chronicle, 2 copies

Manchester Evening News, 2 Sheffield Daily Telegraph
 copies Tribune
 Manchester Guardian, 2 copies Westminster Gazette
 Pall Mall Gazette Yorkshire Post

WEEKLY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Herald,	* Cycling.
4 copies	* Drapers' Record
Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter,	* Electrical Engineer
4 copies	Electrical Review
Athenæum	Engineer
Black and White	English Mechanic
* Board of Trade Journal	Era
Boy's Own Paper	Exchange and Mart (Mon.
British Congregationalist	Wed. and Fri.)
British Journal of Photography	Field
British Weekly	Fishing Gazette
Builder	Gardener
* Canada	Gardeners' Chronicle
* Canadian Gazette	Good Words
* Catholic Times	Graphic
Chambers's Journal	Hampstead Magazine (for the
Christian World	Blind)
* Civil Service Aspirant	Illustrated London News
* Civil Service Candidate	Irish Catholic
* Civil Service Competitor	* Journal of the Society of Arts
Clarion	Labour News
* Commercial Motor	* Liberty Review
Cotton Factory Times	* Local Government Chronicle
Country Gentleman	London Guardian
Country Life	Manchester City News

Manchester Courier Weekly	Saturday Review
Supplement	Schoolmaster
Manchester Weekly Times	Schoolmistress
* Motor	Sketch
* Motor Boat	Spectator
* Motor Traction	T. P's. Weekly
Nature	Textile Mercury
Oldham Chronicle	Truth
* Patent Office Journal	* University Correspondent
* Phonetic Journal	* Warehouseman and Draper
Publishers' Circular	* Woodworker
Punch, 2 copies	World
Railway Review	

MONTHLY.

Antiquary	Cornhill Magazine
Army List	* Educational Times
Badminton Magazine	Esperantist
Band of Hope Review	Faces and Places
Blackwood's Magazine	* Foresters' Miscellany
Bookseller	Fortnightly Review
British Workman	Gentleman's Magazine
C. B. Fry's Magazine	Harmsworth Magazine
Cassell's Family Magazine	Harper's Monthly
Century Magazine	* Herald of Peace
* Child's Guardian	Hora Jucunda (Magazine for the Blind)
* Children's Garden	* Independent Methodist
* Church of England League Gazette	* Insurance Agent and the Insurance Review
Contemporary Review	

- | | |
|---|--|
| * Journal of the Clerk of
Works' Association | Review of Reviews |
| Knowledge | Royal Magazine |
| Liberator | Scribner's Magazine |
| * Liberty Review | * State Correspondent |
| * Machinery Market | Strand Magazine |
| Macmillan's Magazine | Studio |
| * Musical Herald | * Sunday Advocate and National
Sunday League Record |
| Musical Times | Textile Manufacturer |
| Naturalist | * Travel |
| Nineteenth Century | * Traveller's Gazette |
| Pall Mall Magazine | * Vaccination Inquirer |
| Pearson's Magazine | * Vegetarian Messenger |
| Photographic Monthly | Westminster Review |
| * Positivist Review | Windsor Magazine |
| * Queensland Mining Journal | * Zoophilist |
| Quiver | |

BI-MONTHLY.

The British Printer.

QUARTERLY.

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Edinburgh Review | Quarterly Review |
| Hibbert Journal | Post Office Guide |
| Historical Review | |

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Bradshaw's Guide | * London and North Western |
| * Caledonian | * London and South Western |
| * Great Central | * London, Brighton, and
South Coast |
| * Great Eastern | * London, Chatham, and Dover |
| * Great Northern | * Midland |
| * Great Western | * South Eastern |
| * Lancashire and Yorkshire | |

DIRECTORIES.

- * Advertiser's A. B. C. Directory
 - Gore's Liverpool Directory
 - Kelly's Directory of Birmingham
 - Kelly's Directory of Birmingham, Staffordshire,
Warwickshire, and Worcestershire
 - Kelly's Directory of Cheshire
 - Kelly's Directory of Lancashire
 - Kelly's Directory of Manchester, Salford, and Suburban
 - Kelly's Post Office London Directory
 - Kelly's West Riding of Yorkshire
 - * Practical Advertising
 - Sell's World's Press
 - * Stubbs' Directory
-

FILES OF NEWSPAPERS.

- The "Times"from 1881 to 1905.
- The "Manchester Guardian" ,, 1883 to date.
- The "Manchester Courier"..... ,, 1887 ,,
- The "Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter" ,, 1860 ,,
- The "Stalybridge Herald" for 1888.
- The "Ashton-under-Lyne Herald" from 1889 to date.
- The "Ashton Chronicle" 1848-49.
- The "Ashton-under-Lyne Standard," 1860-66, 1870-83.
and 1885.
- The "Ashton-under-Lyne News"from 1868-73.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION.

PUBLIC FREE LIBRARY.

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LIBRARIAN,

FOR THE

Year ending March 17th, 1908.

Committee and Officers, 1907-1908.

CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR CLAYTON.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN:

ALDERMAN ROEBUCK.

THE MAYOR.

COUNCILLORS ANDREW, GREENWOOD, HEGINBOTTOM,
PEARSON, POWNALL, REYNER AND WATERHOUSE.

HONORARY MEMBERS:

REV. J. M. CRAVEN, REV. J. MANNING,
REV. T. W. PUGHE-MORGAN, MESSRS. JOSEPH HURST
AND WILLIAM KELSALL, JUN.

"BOOKS" SUB-COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR CLAYTON.

THE MAYOR.

COUNCILLORS PEARSON, REYNER AND WATERHOUSE,
REV. J. M. CRAVEN.

LIBRARIAN:

GEO. FLETCHER.

SUB-LIBRARIAN:

R. F. MORRIS.

ASSISTANTS:

ERNEST OKELL AND HAROLD WHITEHEAD.

CARETAKER:

JOHN HOLLINGWORTH.

REPORT
OF THE LIBRARIAN OF THE
Public Free Library,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

To the Chairman and Members of the Free Library Committee

GENTLEMEN,—

I beg to submit herewith the 14th Annual Report on the work of the Library during the year ending March 17th, 1908.

This is the first complete year of the working of the Library on the Open Access System, and it is now possible to form a fairly accurate opinion as to the result. I think that there can be no question that the innovation has proved eminently successful. The number of persons using the Library has increased; there is an increase of 16,714 in the number of books issued; the percentage in the issue of purely fictional works has decreased, and, judging by the comments made, there is an overwhelming opinion amongst the borrowers in favour of the new system.

The Library has been open for the issue of books on 297 days during the year, and 78,868 books have been issued for home reading and reference purposes, giving a daily average of 266.

It is interesting to compare the year under review with that of 1905-6, the last complete year of the Library with the indicator system in operation. In 1905-6 the lending

department issues were 50,037, this year they are 66,751, an increase of 16,714. During 1905-6 the Library was open on 290 days, and the average daily issue was 173; this year it has been open 297 days, and the average issue works out at 225. The percentage of works of a purely fictional character issued in 1905-6 was 61; this year it is 58.

When the last report was submitted the new system had been in operation only five months, and during that period the issue of books was 29,211. A comparison with the last five months of the period covered by the present report will show that the total issue has been 28,539, there being a decrease of 672 volumes. But an analysis of the figures shows that this decrease has been in the Juvenile Department only. The issue of works in the fictional and non-fictional sections of the Library has increased by 905 and 529 volumes respectively.

It was only to be expected that the novelty of the new system would attract readers and tend to an increased issue of books during the first twelve months or so, and that after that period there would be a tendency for the issues to drop slightly. That this has happened to some extent is apparent, but, as I have shown, the decrease has been in the children's department only. It is quite reasonable to expect that future reports will show a gradual increase in the number of persons using the Library, and in the number of books issued.

The additions to stock during the last twelve months number 1,316; of these 743 were purchased, 173 received as donations, and the rest were books originally in the Library, but which at the time the stock was being overhauled were put with others on one side for further

consideration, and are now returned to the shelves. The total number of books in the lending and reference departments is 19,053.

There are 2,888 borrowers' tickets in force, as compared with 2,671 in March, 1907. Of these, 2,148 are ordinary tickets; 290 extra tickets to be used for non-fictional works only, an increase of 92 on last year's figures; juvenile readers are responsible for 448 tickets, a decrease of 54 as compared with last year; and the special reference tickets number 10.

The Card Catalogue in the Lending Department has been completed by the provision of a sectional subject catalogue. At the end of each book stack there is fixed a cabinet containing the cards representing the books on the shelves of that particular stack. These cards are arranged in the same order as the books, i.e., according to the subject, and borrowers can thus see almost at a glance what books on any subject the Library possesses. In the fiction catalogue the cards are arranged under authors.

Every effort is made to popularise the Library and increase the love of good reading among its users. Early last spring the books in the Library dealing with sport, games, gardening and out-door life generally, were taken from the main collection and placed on a series of shelves to the left of the entrance wicket. Suitable notices drawing the attention of borrowers to this special collection were prominently displayed, and, as a result of this, many persons were attracted to the section, and the issue of books on out-door life, natural history, etc., showed a very gratifying increase. The experiment is being continued in other

departments of literature, and at present collections of "100 Good Biographies and volumes of interesting Reminiscences" and "100 Modern Works of Travel, 1st series," are being displayed. As evidencing the practical effect of such a simple procedure, I may mention that during last month the issue in Class G. (Biography) showed an increase of 100 per cent. on the issue for the same month last year.

Some two months ago, acting upon a hint given in an article contributed to the "Library World," there was placed in each of the trade journals, specialist papers, etc., in the reading room a list of the books in the Library dealing with that particular trade, occupation, or recreation. For example, each of the two gardening papers has in it a list of the books we have on gardening, together with a suitable notice stating that any reader of the paper can obtain any book for use in the reading room; or, if he is a resident of Ashton or Hurst, for home reading. Already numerous applications for books have been made, and in many cases the enquirers have become regular borrowers.

The arrangement made with the proprietors of the *Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter* for the insertion in that newspaper of the monthly lists of additions to the Library, and the supplying of 1,000 reprints in page form has been continued, and evidence has not been wanting to show that residents in the town, who, for one reason or another, are not regular borrowers, are, by means of these lists, enabled to keep up their interest in the Library. The Editor of the *Ashton-under-Lyne Herald* publishes the list gratuitously in the columns of the *Herald*, and to him our thanks are tendered for this kindness.

The annual subscriptions of £50 and £5 have again been received from the Hurst Urban District Council and the authorities in charge of the Dépôt of the Manchester Regiment respectively. There have also been received seven half-yearly subscriptions from borrowers outside the municipal borough.

By an arrangement entered into with the Ashton and District Blind Society, this Committee will cease to buy books for the blind, but, together with the Library Committees of Stalybridge and Dukinfield, will contribute annually a sum of money to the Society, which in turn will subscribe to one of the Lending Libraries for the Blind. By this arrangement the blind people in the district will get a better and more regular selection of books, and the cost will be equitably borne by the three authorities.

The five sets of Stereoscopic Tours added to the Library last September have been very much appreciated, and verbal applications have been received for other sets to be added.

Deputations from other Library Committees have visited the Library during the year, and all have expressed themselves as highly pleased with the arrangements made for the benefit of the borrowers.

The collection of books lately forming the Mechanics' Institute Library is being classified, catalogued, and added to the general Library as opportunity offers.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. FLETCHER.

Number of Volumes in Stock on March 17th, 1908.

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

Sciences	824
Useful Arts	499
Fine and Recreative Arts.....	526
Social and Political Science.....	490
Philosophy and Religion	603
History and Geography.....	2376
Biography and Correspondence	1345
Language and Literature	453
Poetry and Drama	727
Prose Fiction	2668
Juvenile Literature.....	1113
Miscellaneous	528

12152

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT 6300

Books for the Blind 601

TOTAL..... 19053

Lending Department

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1907. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspondence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Prose Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	* Daily Average.
March															
18th to 28th...	65	68	51	30	17	95	29	21	15	1345	750	33	2519	10	252
April	158	132	137	84	56	249	95	53	47	3466	1605	113	6195	25	310
May	161	113	149	67	40	265	73	38	41	3221	1350	106	5624	25	268
June	171	126	185	61	48	256	80	49	45	2989	1041	84	5135	25	245
July	168	96	151	70	46	227	74	43	63	2989	1096	58	5086	27	231
August															
1st to 15th, & 26th to 31st...	77	62	93	43	33	149	39	18	34	1929	659	46	3182	18	212
September...	113	122	121	60	55	153	65	35	60	2828	944	71	4627	25	220
October ...	138	157	139	96	52	244	76	46	62	3417	1327	90	5844	27	266
November...	166	136	146	101	52	277	102	68	70	3772	1469	92	6451	26	293
December ...	139	151	140	82	60	256	105	51	68	3330	1402	93	5877	24	309
1908.															
January.....	178	168	121	93	41	308	160	54	72	3776	1456	81	6508	26	296
February ...	172	184	165	98	63	340	169	61	69	3524	1365	98	6308	25	300
March															
2nd to 17th ...	107	96	92	44	27	174	84	24	40	1927	728	52	3395	14	309
	1813	1611	1690	929	590	2993	1151	561	691	38513	15192	1017	66751	297	225

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

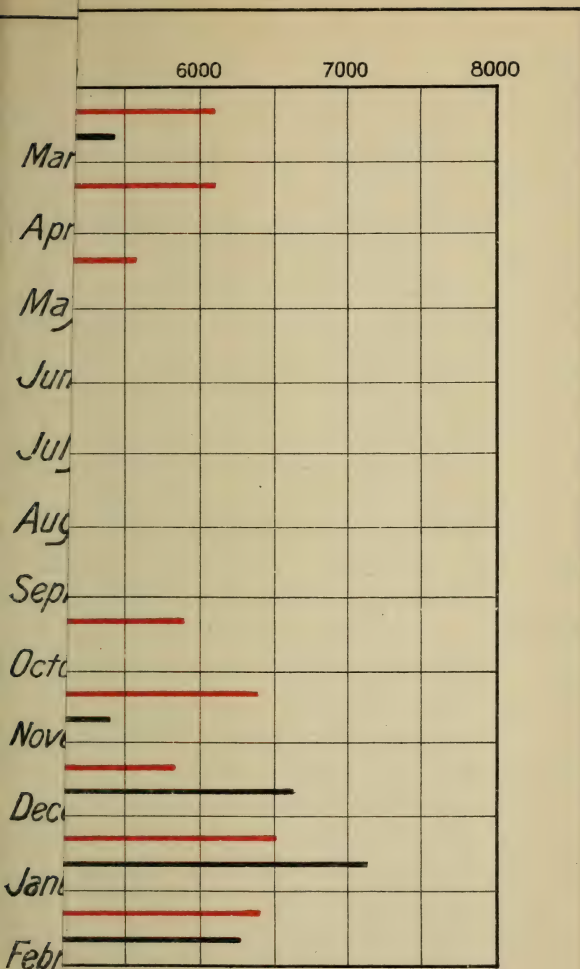
Reference Department.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1907. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts.	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspond- ence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	* Daily Average.
March	178	—	—	—	193	—	—	—	—	—	371	10	37
18th to 28th....	457	5	4	—	485	3	—	—	—	—	954	25	48
April	433	—	—	—	475	—	—	—	—	—	908	25	43
May	307	1	132	2	354	2	4	—	—	84	886	25	42
June	14	3	718	2	—	3	15	1	—	479	1235	27	56
July													
August													
1st to 15th, & 26th to 31st...	30	—	192	4	27	4	8	2	—	211	478	18	32
September...	19	—	645	—	—	1	21	—	—	377	1063	25	51
October	20	2	693	—	—	—	20	—	—	405	1140	27	52
November ...	11	—	674	—	—	—	19	—	—	399	1103	26	51
December ...	15	—	629	—	—	5	19	2	2	364	1036	24	55
1908.													
January	9	—	689	—	—	4	21	1	2	432	1158	26	53
February ...	11	3	668	—	4	6	19	3	3	427	1144	25	54
March													
2nd to 17th ...	5	1	876	—	1	4	12	4	3	235	641	14	58
	1509	15	5420	8	1539	32	158	13	10	3413	12117	297	41

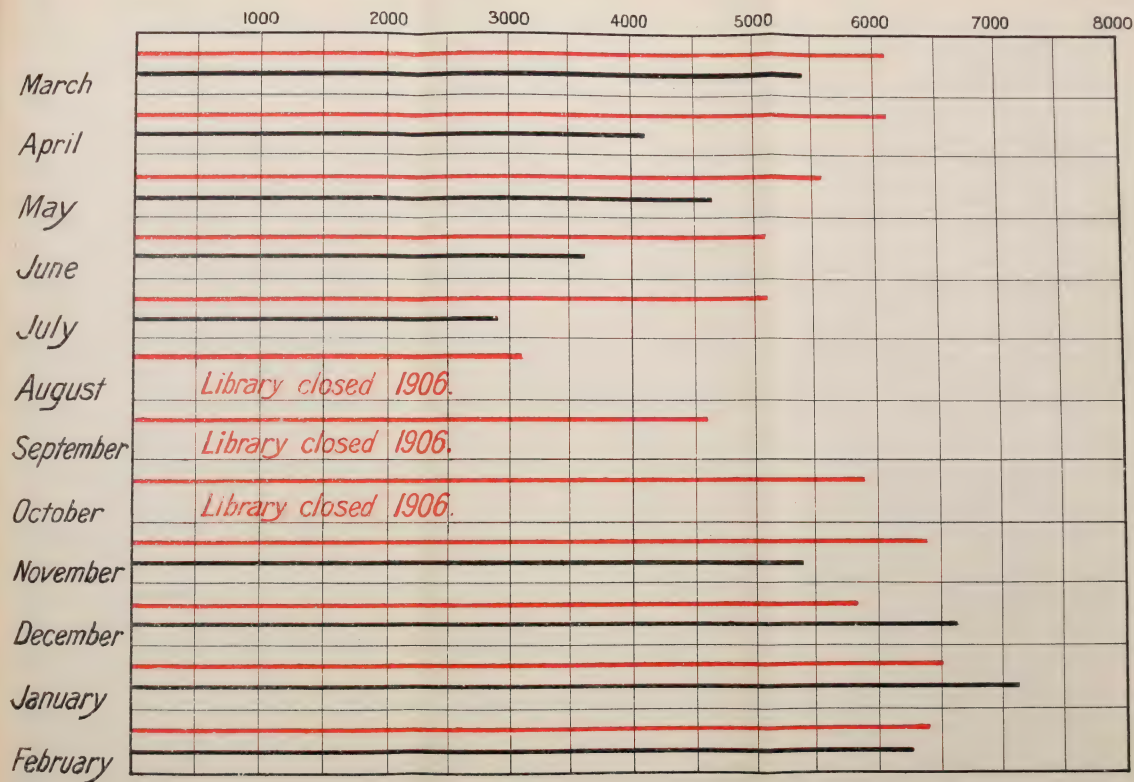
* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

the Last two years.



k Lines:- 1906-7.

Diagram showing monthly issue during the Last two years.



Red Lines:- 1907-8.

Black Lines:- 1906-7.

Lending and Reference Departments Combined.

1907. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts	Fine and Recreative Arts	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspond- ence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	* Daily Average.
March															
18th to 23th...	243	68	51	30	210	95	29	21	15	1345	750	33	2890	10	289
April	615	137	141	84	541	252	95	53	47	3466	1605	113	7149	25	286
May	594	113	149	67	515	265	73	38	41	3221	1350	106	6532	25	261
June	478	127	317	63	402	258	84	49	45	2989	1041	168	6021	25	241
July	182	99	869	72	46	230	89	44	68	2989	1096	537	6321	27	234
August															
1st to 15th, & 26th to 31st...	107	62	285	47	60	153	47	20	34	1929	659	257	3660	18	203
September...	132	122	766	60	55	154	86	35	60	2828	944	448	5690	25	228
October	158	159	832	96	52	244	96	46	62	3417	1327	495	6984	27	259
November...	177	136	820	101	52	277	121	68	70	3772	1469	491	7554	26	291
December ... 1908.	154	151	769	82	60	261	124	53	70	3330	1402	457	6913	24	288
January	187	168	816	93	41	312	181	55	74	3776	1456	513	7666	26	295
February ...	183	187	833	98	67	346	188	64	72	3524	1365	525	7452	25	298
March															
2nd to 17th...	112	97	468	44	28	178	96	28	43	1927	728	287	4036	14	288
	3322	1626	7110	937	2129	3025	1309	574	701	38513	15192	4430	78868	297	266

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

General Summary.

LENDING AND REFERENCE DEPARTMENTS.

Volumes presented	173
Volumes purchased:—	
Replacements	146
Additions	741
Volumes of Societies' Publications obtained by Subscription	2
Volumes bound	144
Volumes in Stock.....	19053
Total number of Issues	78868
Average Daily Issue	266
Tickets in force	2888
Overdue books written for	1007
Volumes returned from Infected Houses and Destroyed	Nil.

General Data.

Population (Census 1901)	43890
Rateable Value.....	£188,571 1s. 0d.
Public Libraries' Act adopted	1880
News Room (Town Hall) opened.....	1st August, 1881
Library (Town Hall) opened by the Mayoress (Mrs. Ely Andrew)	25th March, 1882
Library (Town Hall) closed preparatory to the re- cataloguing and removing of books to the Hegin- bottom Free Library	22nd April, 1893
Heginbottom Technical School and Free Library formally opened by the Mayor (Alderman Ely Andrew) and Alderman Thos. Heginbottom, 1st July, 1893	
Books removed from Town Hall to new Building, December, 1893	
News Room opened	1st January, 1894
Issue of books re-commenced	19th March, 1894
Juvenile Department opened.....	14th May, 1896
Library closed for alterations preparatory to the adop- tion of the Open Access System.....	31st July, 1906
Library opened on the Open Access System, 1st November, 1906	

Donors of Books, Pamphlets, &c.

Year Ending 17th March, 1908.

v volumes. *r.* reports. *p.* pamphlets.

Abel & Imray, Messrs.....	1 <i>p</i>
Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary	1 <i>r</i>
Baker, Arthur E. Esq.....	1 <i>p</i>
Board of Trade	6 <i>r</i>
Briscoe, J. Potter Esq. F.R.S.L.	12 <i>p</i>
British Museum Trustees	9 <i>v</i> 5 <i>p</i>
Co-operative Wholesale Societies, Ltd.....	2 <i>v</i> 2 <i>r</i>
Commissioner of Education, U.S.A.	1 <i>r</i>
Comptroller of Patents	63 <i>v</i>
Cooper, A. Esq.	1 <i>p</i>
Cox, Miss Ethel L.	1 <i>v</i>
Director of Experimental Farms in Canada	1 <i>r</i>
Durham University	1 <i>v</i>
Fraser, Miss Lucy A.....	1 <i>v</i>
Gerrard, John, Esq.....	1 <i>r</i>
Gladstone Trustees	4 <i>v</i>
Grierson, Douglas Esq.	1 <i>v</i>

Guppy, Henry Esq., M.A.	4 p
Heginbottom, Mr. Councillor T.	1 v
Incorporated Society of Musicians	1 v
Layton, Messrs. C. & E.	2 p
London University Correspondence College ...	1 v
Longmans & Co.	1 v
Macmillan & Co.	1 v
Mather & Crowther, Messrs.	1 v
Medical Officer of Health for the County	1 r
National Union of Teachers ...	1 r
Neal, John Esq.	2 v
Paton, Messrs. J. & J.	1 v
Pratt, Edwin A. Esq.	1 v
Reyner, Mr. Councillor ...	Framed photographic reproduction of the notice calling a public meeting of residents of the borough for the purpose of petitioning for a Charter of Incorporation, Feb. 18th. 1847.
„ „	2 v
Royal Agricultural Society ...	1 v
Scott, A. H. Esq., M.P. ..	1 v
Sheard, Mrs.	4 v
Smith, Dr. J. Bissett	2 v
Smithsonian Institution, U.S.A.	1 r
Society of Accountants and Auditors	1 v
Stamp, Jos. Esq.	2 v
Sutton, Chas. W., Esq.	1 v 4 p
Tutin, J. R. Esq.	1 v
Watkins Meter Co.	1 v
Whitaker, Messrs. J. & Sons, Ltd.	1 v
Worcester Corporation	1 v

Annual Reports from the following Libraries:—Aberdeen, Accrington, Altrincham, Aston Manor, Baltimore, Bangor (U.S.A.), Barnsley, Barrow-in-Furness, Barry, Battersea, Belfast, Birmingham, Bishopgate Foundation Institute, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bolton, Bootle, Bournemouth, Brighton, Bristol, Buffalo (U.S.A.), Bury, Buxton, Cambridge, Cardiff, Chicago (U.S.A.), Chiswick, Christchurch (N.Z.), Clitheroe, Colchester, Cork, Council Bluffs (U.S.A.), Cripplegate Foundation Institute, Croydon, Derby, Detroit (U.S.A.), Devonport, Dewsbury, Dukinfield, Dundee, Ealing, East London (S.A.), Eccles, Fall River (U.S.A.), Glasgow, Gloucester, Great Yarmouth, Hamilton (Canada), Hammersmith, Hanley, Hartlepool, Haslingden, Hornsey, Hove, Hyde, Kendal, Kettering, Kidderminster, Kilburn, Kingston-upon-Thames, Leeds, Leicester, Leigh, Leyton, Liverpool, Longton, Loughborough, Manchester, Manchester Athenæum, Middlesbrough, Minneapolis (U.S.A.), Nelson, New York (U.S.A.), Newcastle-under-Lyme, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Norwich, Nottingham, Oldbury, Oldham, Paisley, Penarth, Perth, Port Elizabeth (S.A.), Portland (U.S.A.), Portsmouth, Preston, Providence (U.S.A.), Richmond (Surrey), Rothwell, Runcorn, St. Bride Foundation Institute, St. Helens, St. Louis (U.S.A.), Salem (U.S.A.), Scranton (U.S.A.), Shore-ditch, Smethwick, South Australia, South Shields, Stafford, Stirling's and Glasgow, Stockport, Stoke Newington, Taunton, Toronto (Canada), Tottenham, Twickenham, Tynemouth, Wandsworth, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, Watford, West Bromwich, West Hartlepool, Weston-super-Mare, Westminster, Whitehaven, Widnes, Wigan, Wimbledon, Windsor (Canada), Worcester, Workington and York.

News and Magazine Rooms.

Chapman, Samuel, Esq.	"Engineering."
Church of Christ.....	"Bible Advocate."
Co-operative Society, Working Men's	"Co-operative News" and "Millgate Monthly."
Griffin & Sheard, Messrs.....	"Bible Society's Monthly Reporter."
Hurst, Joseph, Esq.	"Methodist Times."
Local Branch Independent Labour Party	"Labour Leader."
Local Branch Social Democratic Federation	"Justice."
New Church Society	"New Church Magazine."
Pownall, Mr. Councillor	"National Church."
Also the Newspapers, &c. marked with an asterisk in the following list, which are presented by the Publishers.	

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, PERIODICALS AND REVIEWS, SUPPLIED TO THE NEWS AND READING ROOMS.

DAILY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Evening	Lloyd's List
Reporter, 2 copies	London Daily Mail
Birmingham Daily Post	„ Daily News
Daily Graphic	„ Daily Telegraph
Freeman's Journal	„ Times
Glasgow Herald	Manchester Courier, 2 copies
Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury	Manchester Evening Chronicle, 2 copies

Manchester Evening News, 2 copies Westminster Gazette
 Yorkshire Daily Observer
 Manchester Guardian, 2 copies Yorkshire Post
 Pall Mall Gazette

WEEKLY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Herald,	* Drapers' Record
4 copies	* Electrical Engineer
Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter,	Electrical Review
4 copies	Engineer
Athenæum	English Mechanic
Black and White	Era
* Board of Trade Journal	Exchange and Mart (Mon.
Boy's Own Paper	Wed. and Fri.)
British Congregationalist	Field
British Journal of Photography	Fishing Gazette
British Weekly	Gardener
Builder	Gardeners' Chronicle
* Canada	Graphic
* Canadian Gazette	Hampstead Magazine (for the
* Catholic Times	Blind)
Chambers's Journal	Illustrated London News
Christian World	Irish Catholic
* Civil Service Aspirant	* Journal of the Society of Arts
* Civil Service Candidate	Labour News
Clarion	* Liberty Review
* Commercial Motor	London Guardian
Cotton Factory Times	Manchester City News
Country Gentleman	Municipal Journal
Country Life	Manchester Weekly Times
* Cycling.	* Motor

* Motor Boat
 * Motor Traction
 Nature
 North Cheshire Herald
 Oldham Chronicle
 * Patent Office Journal
 * Phonetic Journal
 Publishers' Circular
 Punch, 2 copies
 Railway Review
 Saturday Review

Schoolmaster
 Schoolmistress
 Sketch
 Spectator
 T. P's. Weekly
 Textile Mercury
 Truth
 * University Correspondent
 * Warehouseman and Draper
 * Woodworker

MONTHLY.

Antiquary
 Army List
 Badminton Magazine
 Blackwood's Magazine
 Bookman
 Bookseller
 C. B. Fry's Magazine
 Canadian Magazine
 Cassell's Family Magazine
 Cassier's Magazine
 Century Magazine
 * Church of England League
 Gazette
 Contemporary Review
 Cornhill Magazine
 * Educational Times
 Esperantist

* Foresters' Miscellany
 Fortnightly Review
 Harmsworth Magazine
 Harper's Monthly
 * Herald of Peace
 Hora Jucunda (Magazine for
 the Blind)
 * Independent Methodist
 * Insurance Agent and the
 Insurance Review
 * Journal of the Clerk of
 Works' Association
 Knowledge
 Liberator
 * Liberty Review
 McClure's Magazine
 * Machinery Market

* Musical Herald	* State Correspondent
Musical Times	Strand Magazine
Naturalist	Studio
Nineteenth Century	* Sunday Advocate and National
Pall Mall Magazine	Sunday League Record
Pearson's Magazine	Textile Manufacturer
Photographic Monthly	* Travel
* Positivist Review	* Traveller's Gazette
* Queensland Mining Journal	* Vaccination Inquirer
Quiver	* Vegetarian Messenger
Review of Reviews	Westminster Review
Royal Magazine	Windsor Magazine
Scribner's Magazine	* Zoophilist

BI-MONTHLY.

The British Printer.

QUARTERLY.

Edinburgh Review	Post Office Guide
Hibbert Journal	Quarterly Review

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

Bradshaw's Guide	* London and North Western
* Caledonian	* London and South Western
* Furness	* London, Brighton, and
* Great Central	South Coast
* Great Eastern	* London, Chatham, and Dover
* Great Northern	* Midland
* Great Western	* South Eastern
* Lancashire and Yorkshire	

DIRECTORIES.

- * Advertiser's A. B. C. Directory
 - Gore's Liverpool Directory
 - Kelly's Directory of Birmingham
 - Kelly's Directory of Birmingham, Staffordshire,
Warwickshire, and Worcestershire
 - Kelly's Directory of Cheshire
 - Kelly's Directory of Lancashire
 - Kelly's Directory of Manchester, Salford, and Suburban
 - Kelly's Post Office London Directory
 - Kelly's West Riding of Yorkshire
 - * Practical Advertising
 - Sell's World's Press
 - * Stubbs' Directory
-

FILES OF NEWSPAPERS.

- The "Times"from 1881 to 1905.
- The "Manchester Guardian" ,, 1883 to date.
- The "Manchester Courier" ,, 1887 ,,
- The "Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter" ,, 1860 ,,
- The "Stalybridge Herald" for 1888.
- The "Ashton-under-Lyne Herald" from 1889 to date.
- The "Ashton Chronicle" 1848-49.
- The "Ashton-under-Lyne Standard," 1860-66, 1870-83.
and 1885.
- The "Ashton-under-Lyne News"from 1868-73.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION.

PUBLIC FREE LIBRARY.

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LIBRARIAN,

FOR THE

Year ending March 17th, 1909.

Committee and Officers, 1908-1909.

CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR CLAYTON.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN :

ALDERMAN ROEBUCK.

THE MAYOR.

COUNCILLORS ANDREW, HEGINBOTTOM, PEARSON,
POLLITT, POWNALL, REYNER AND WATERHOUSE.

HONORARY MEMBERS :

REV. J. M. CRAVEN, REV. R. MORTIMER,
REV. T. W. PUGHE-MORGAN, MESSRS. JOSEPH HURST
AND WILLIAM KELSALL, JUN.

"BOOKS" SUB-COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR CLAYTON.

THE MAYOR.

COUNCILLORS PEARSON, REYNER AND WATERHOUSE,
REV. J. M. CRAVEN.

LIBRARIAN :

GEO. FLETCHER.

SUB-LIBRARIAN :

R. F. MORRIS.

ASSISTANTS :

ERNEST OKELL AND HAROLD WHITEHEAD.

CARETAKER :

JOHN HOLLINGWORTH.

REPORT
OF THE LIBRARIAN OF THE
Public Free Library,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

To the Chairman and Members of the Free Library Committee.

GENTLEMEN,—

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration and approval the 15th Annual Report of the work of the Library for the year ending 17th March, 1909.

It is gratifying to state that the year under review may be described as having been a record year in all departments of the Library's work. The number of borrowers has increased, the issue of books in the Lending Department and in the Lending and Reference Departments combined is the highest in the history of the Library, and the fiction percentage of the total issue from the Lending Department is lower than in any previous year.

The Library has been open for the issue and consultation of books on 295 days during the year, and 90,949 books have been issued for home reading and reference purposes, giving a daily average of 308 volumes.

For the purposes of comparison there is given herewith a summary containing the essential figures of the year under review, those of the year covered by the last report, and also those of 1905-6, the last complete year of work under the old system :—

	1905-6.	1907-8.	1908-9.
Lending Department Issues.....	50,037 ..	66,751 ..	76,484
Lending and Reference Department Issues	74,907 ..	78,868 ..	90,949
Average Daily Issue (Lending Department)	173 ..	225 ..	259
Fiction percentage.....	61 ..	58 ..	55
Number of Borrowers	2,554 ..	2,888 ..	3,930

From this it will be seen that during the last three years the Lending Department Issues have increased over 50 per cent., that there has been an increase of 1,376 in the number of persons using the Library, and that the fiction percentage has dropped from 61 to 55. These satisfactory results are due almost entirely to the Open Access System, and show conclusively that the Committee's action in adopting the system, and that in spite of much opposition, has been fully justified.

The total number of books now in the Library is 19,834. Of these 781 have been added during the year, 688 by purchase and 93 have been received as donations.

There are 3,930 borrowers' tickets in force as compared with 2,888 in March, 1908. Of these, 2,763 are ordinary tickets; 495 extra tickets which are used for non-fictional works only, an increase of 205 on last year's figures; 660 are

juvenile tickets, an increase of 212 as compared with the number in March, 1908; and 12 the special reference tickets enabling students to take for home reading certain works from the reference collection.

The number of tickets issued to the residents of each of the three districts now served by the Library is as follows:—

Ashton-under-Lyne	3,516
Hurst	249
Waterloo.....	165

This year has seen the inclusion of the Parish of Waterloo in the area served by the Public Library. The Parochial electors of Waterloo held a Public Meeting in July last, and adopted the Public Libraries' Acts, and later in that month, this Committee agreed to accept an annual subscription of £25 from the Parish Council of Waterloo and in return to grant to the residents of the Parish the same privileges as regards the use of the Library as those enjoyed by the residents of the Borough. The issue of books commenced on the 1st of August, and as the above figures show, a good number of Waterloo residents have taken advantage of the opportunity to use the Library.

The similar arrangement between the Urban District Council of Hurst and this Committee, which has been in operation now for a period of eight years, continues to give satisfaction, and the Military Authorities at the Depot of the Manchester Regiment have again renewed their annual subscription of £5. Four half-yearly subscriptions and one yearly have been received from borrowers who live outside the three districts served by the Library.

In May last, this Committee decided to subscribe a sum of £14 per annum to Smiths' Subscription Library, in return for which the Committee was to be supplied with forty volumes from Messrs. Smiths' stock, the volumes to be interchangeable in any number and at any time. This arrangement has been very much appreciated by the borrowers, as by its means many books have been put into circulation which otherwise could not have been added to the Library until they had been obtainable through the second-hand book market.

The various efforts made in the past to popularise the Library and increase the standard of literature taken for home reading, have been continued, and at present two special collections of books, viz. : "200 Good Novels," and "100 Modern Works of Travel, 3rd Series," are being displayed. It is intended to again make, during the spring and summer, a special display of the books we possess on sport, games, gardening, and out door life generally. There can be no question that these special collections of books on different subjects, have been the means of bringing before the borrowers many works of whose presence on the Library shelves they were ignorant. The Books Sub-Committee meets every month and exercises great care and discrimination in its recommendations of new books for addition to the Library. Its endeavour is to cater for all classes of readers, consistent with a due regard for the limited funds at its disposal and the fact that nothing of an unwholesome character must find a place on the shelves of the Library.

The monthly lists of additions continue to be published in both local papers, and the arrangement entered into by

this Committee and the Proprietors of the Ashton-under-Lyne "Reporter," for the supplying of 1,000 reprints in page form, continues to give every satisfaction. To the Editor of the Ashton-under-Lyne "Herald," our thanks are tendered for publishing the list gratuitously whenever the exigencies of space in the columns of his paper will allow.

The Annual Meeting of the North-Western Branch of the Library Association was held here on the 20th January last. A short and informal reception took place in the Library, and after an inspection of the various rooms, the members were conveyed to the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, where the Annual Business Meeting was held. The Chairman of this Committee, (Mr. Councillor Clayton afterwards entertained the visitors to tea, and Alderman Roebuck, together with Councillors Reyner and Waterhouse contributed to their enjoyment during the after-tea proceedings. The meeting was considered to be one of the most successful held by the Branch Association.

Among the matters requiring consideration may be mentioned the provision of a separate room for the Reference collection of books, and also Juvenile and Ladies' Reading Rooms.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. FLETCHER.

Number of Volumes in Stock on March 17th, 1909.

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

Sciences	871
Useful Arts	538
Fine and Recreative Arts.....	556
Social and Political Science.....	520
Philosophy and Religion	647
History and Geography.....	2513
Biography and Correspondence	1391
Language and Literature	471
Poetry and Drama	758
Prose Fiction	2794
Juvenile Literature.....	1183
Miscellaneous	602

12844

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT 6389

Books for the Blind 601

TOTAL..... 19834

Bending Department

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1908. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspond- ence.	Language and Literature	Poetry and Drama.	Prose Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	* Daily Average.
March															
18th to 31st...	83	94	53	37	29	143	80	32	26	1655	627	46	2905	12	291
April	188	176	148	100	49	331	105	45	54	3569	1286	69	6120	23	322
May	180	134	142	74	53	289	79	37	52	3026	1171	92	5329	26	242
June	166	105	152	48	36	279	80	38	35	2736	1029	84	4788	24	252
July	185	120	151	76	64	345	72	45	63	3264	1293	70	5748	27	250
August															
1st to 13th, &															
24th to 31st...	114	122	123	42	33	245	56	32	34	2292	982	53	4128	17	295
September...	178	179	155	88	78	414	112	59	83	3527	1453	85	6411	26	305
October	262	232	225	114	71	519	113	71	90	4182	2502	124	8505	27	370
November ...	208	241	198	114	95	451	149	76	80	3992	2163	110	7877	25	375
December ...	241	206	197	89	73	404	116	75	81	3826	1831	96	7235	25	362
1909.															
January	195	190	181	101	73	393	133	66	93	3875	1595	107	6992	24	350
February ...	199	187	193	93	79	402	139	68	74	3558	1296	95	6383	24	319
March															
1st to 17th ...	135	135	119	66	49	256	77	36	52	2282	791	65	4063	15	339
Totals 1908-9.	2334	2121	2037	1042	782	4471	1311	680	807	41784	18019	1096	76484	295	259
Totals 1907-8.	1813	1611	1690	929	590	2993	1151	561	691	38513	15192	1017	66751	297	225

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

Reference Department

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

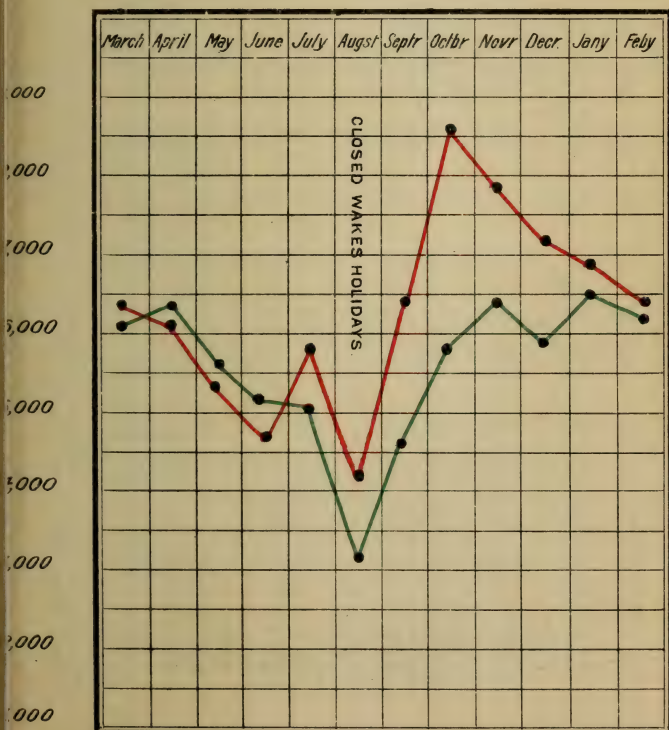
1908. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts.	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspondence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average. *
March 18th to 31st...	14	5	319	—	3	8	9	1	2	214	575	12	58
April	38	5	611	—	4	26	20	7	11	387	1109	23	58
May	21	11	701	5	11	25	31	8	13	449	1275	26	58
June	24	9	652	2	17	24	18	11	4	427	1188	24	63
July	23	16	734	4	15	22	23	12	11	483	1343	27	58
August 1st to 13th, & 24th to 31st...	28	13	443	1	9	17	11	3	3	296	824	17	59
September...	30	15	702	1	10	29	27	9	7	446	1276	26	61
October	87	15	703	—	20	24	25	18	9	456	1357	27	59
November ...	59	10	663	6	27	17	16	15	5	423	1246	25	59
December ...	31	17	664	5	25	22	21	7	2	429	1223	25	61
1909. January	24	11	639	8	14	22	19	4	4	408	1153	24	58
February ..	22	13	646	4	15	19	15	11	3	413	1161	24	58
March 1st to 17th ...	20	7	407	2	14	7	15	5	1	257	735	15	61
Totals 1908-9.	421	147	7889	38	184	262	250	111	75	5088	14465	295	49
Totals 1907-8.	1509	15	5420	8	1539	32	158	13	10	3413	12117	297	41

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

Diagram showing Monthly issue in the Lending Department during the last two years.

Red Line :- Issue for year 1908-9.

Green Line:- " " " 1907-8.



Lending and Reference Departments Combined.

1908.	Sciences.	Useful Arts	Fine and Recreative Arts	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspond- ence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	* Daily Average.
MONTH.															
March															
18th to 31st ...	97	99	372	37	32	151	89	33	28	1655	627	260	3480	12	348
April ...	226	181	759	100	53	357	125	52	65	3569	1286	456	7229	23	380
May	201	145	843	79	64	314	110	45	65	3026	1171	541	6604	26	300
June	190	114	804	50	53	303	98	49	39	2736	1029	511	5976	24	315
July	208	136	885	80	79	367	95	57	74	3264	1293	553	7091	27	308
August															
1st to 13th, & 24th to 31st...	142	135	566	43	42	262	67	35	37	2292	982	349	4952	17	354
September...	208	194	857	89	88	443	139	68	90	3527	1453	531	7687	26	366
October	349	247	928	114	91	543	138	89	99	4182	2502	580	9862	27	429
November ...	267	251	866	120	122	468	165	91	85	3992	2163	533	9123	25	434
December ...	272	223	861	94	98	426	137	82	83	3826	1831	525	8458	25	423
1909.															
January	219	201	820	109	87	415	152	70	87	3875	1595	515	8145	24	407
February ...	221	200	839	97	94	421	154	79	77	3558	1296	508	7544	24	377
March															
1st to 17th ...	155	142	526	63	63	263	92	41	53	2282	791	322	4798	15	400
Totals 1908-9.	2755	2268	9926	1080	966	4733	1561	791	882	41784	18019	6184	90949	295	308
Totals 1907-8.	3322	1626	7110	937	2129	3025	1309	574	701	38513	15192	4430	78868	297	266

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

General Summary.

LENDING AND REFERENCE DEPARTMENTS.

Volumes presented	93
Volumes purchased:—	
Replacements	223
Additions	688
Volumes of Societies' Publications obtained by Subscription	4
Volumes bound	158
Volumes in Stock	19834
Total number of Issues	90949
Average Daily Issue	308
Tickets in force	3930
Overdue books written for	1807
Volumes returned from Infected Houses and Destroyed	3

General Data.

Population (Census 1901) Ashton-under-Lyne	43890
Do. do. Hurst	7145
Do. do. Waterloo	3858
Rateable Value	£196,361 19s. 0d.
Public Libraries' Act adopted	1880
News Room (Town Hall) opened	1st August, 1881
Library (Town Hall) opened by the Mayoress (Mrs. Ely Andrew)	25th March, 1882
Library (Town Hall) closed preparatory to the re- cataloguing and removing of books to the Hegin- bottom Free Library	22nd April, 1893
Heginbottom Technical School and Free Library formally opened by the Mayor (Alderman Ely Andrew) and Alderman Thos. Heginbottom, 1st July, 1893	
Books removed from Town Hall to new Building, December, 1893	
News Room opened	1st January, 1894
Issue of books re-commenced	19th March, 1894
Juvenile Department opened	14th May, 1896
Library closed for alterations preparatory to the adop- tion of the Open Access System	31st July, 1906
Library opened on the Open Access System, 1st November, 1906	

Donors of Books, Pamphlets, &c.

Year Ending 17th March, 1909.

v volumes. *r.* reports. *p.* pamphlets.

Agent General for Australia.....	1	<i>v</i>
Ashton, Stalybridge, and Dukinfield Blind Society	1	<i>r</i>
Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary	1	<i>r</i>
Baden-Powell, Major B. & S.	1	<i>v</i>
Benson, Miss Susanna	1	<i>v</i>
Board of Trade	2	<i>r</i>
Briscoe, J. Potter Esq. F.R.S.L.	12	<i>p</i>
British & Foreign Unitarian Association	2	<i>v</i>
British Museum Trustees	2	<i>v</i> 3 <i>p</i>
Co-operative Wholesale Societies, Ltd.....	2	<i>v</i>
Commissioner of Education, U.S.A.	1	<i>r</i>
Dawson, A. J. Esq.,.....	1	<i>v</i>
Director of Experimental Farms in Canada	1	<i>r</i> 1 <i>p</i>
Dr. Barnardo's Homes.....	1	<i>r</i>
Durham University	1	<i>v</i>
Gelling Frank H. Esq	1	<i>v</i>
Gerrard, John, Esq.....	1	<i>r</i>
Gibson, Albert J. Esq	6	<i>v</i>
Grand Trunk Railway Co.....	1	wall map.
Great Western Railway Co.....	2	<i>v</i>
Guppy, Henry Esq., M.A.	4	<i>p</i>

Hazlehurst, John Esq	1 v
High Commisioner for New Zealand	2 v. 11 r 5 p
Hill, Samuel Esq	1 v. 14 p
Incorporated Society of Musicians	1 v
International Cotton Congress	1 r
International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners	1 r
James, C. Esq	1 v
Layton, Messrs. C. & E.	2 p
London University Correspondence College	1 v
Longmans & Co	1 v
Macdonald & Co.....	2 v
Macmillan & Co.....	2 v
Mather & Crowther, Messrs.	1 v
Medical Officer of Health for the County	1 r
Moss, Miss	1 v
National Union of Teachers	1 r
Neal, John Esq.....	2 v
Norwich Corporation	1 v
Oxford University Press	1 v
Paton, Messrs. J. & J.....	1 v
Pink, Wm. D., Esq., F.R.H.S.	1 v
Pratt, Edwin A. Esq.....	1 v
Royal Agricultural Society	1 v
Schooling, John H. Esq	1 v
Sherratt & Hughes, Messrs	1 p
Simpkin Marshall & Co	1 p
Smithsonian Institution, U.S.A.	2 v
Snell, W. E. Esq	1 r
Society of Accountants and Auditors	1 v
Stubbs, Fred, Esq.....	1 p
Sutton, Chas. W., Esq., M.A.	1 v

Annual Reports from the following Libraries:—Aberdeen, Accrington, Altrincham, Arbroath, Aston Manor, Atherton, Baltimore (U.S.A.), Bangor (U.S.A.), Barnsley, Barrow-in-Furness, Barry, Battersea, Bebington, Birmingham, Bishopgate Foundation Institute, Blackburn, Bolton, Bootle, Bournemouth, Bradford, Bridgeport (U.S.A.), Brighton, Bristol, Bury, Buxton, Calcutta, Cambridge, Cardiff, Chicago (U.S.A.), Chorley, Christchurch (N.Z.), Cirencester, Clitheroe, Colchester, Cork, Council Bluffs (U.S.A.), Cripplegate Foundation Institute, Croydon, Darlington, Derby, Detroit (U.S.A.), Devonport, Dewsbury, Doncaster, Dukinfield, Dundee, Durban (S.A.), Ealing, East London (S.A.), Eccles, Finsbury, Folkestone, Gloucester, Govan, Great Yarmouth, Hamilton (Canada), Hammersmith, Hanley, Hartlepool, Haslingden, Hornsey, Hove, Hyde, Ipswich, Keighley, Kendal, Kettering, Kidderminster, Kilburn, Kingston-upon-Thames, Leeds, Leek, Leicester, Leigh, Leyton, Lincoln, Liverpool, Longton, Loughborough, Lynn (U.S.A.), Manchester, Manchester Athenæum, Middlesbrough, Minneapolis (U.S.A.), Montrose, Natal (S.A.), Nelson, New York (U.S.A.), Newcastle-under-Lyme, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Norwich, Nottingham, Oldbury, Oldham, Penarth, Perth, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Preston, Providence (U.S.A.), Rawtenstall, Redruth, Richmond (Surrey), Rochdale, Rothwell, Rugby, Runcorn, St. Annes-on-the-Sea, St. Bride Foundation Institute, St. Helens, St. Louis (U.S.A.), Salem (U.S.A.), Scranton (U.S.A.), Shoreditch, Smethwick, South Australia, South Shields, Southwark, Sowerby Bridge, Stafford, Stirling's and Glasgow, Stockport, Stoke Newington, Stratford-upon-Avon, Sunderland, Taunton, Todmorden, Toronto (Canada), Torquay, Tottenham, Twickenham, Tynemouth, Walthamstow, Wandsworth, Watford, West Bromwich, West Hartlepool, Westhoughton, Weston-super-Mare, Westminster, Whitehaven, Widnes, Wigan, Wimbledon, Windsor (Canada), Worcester, Worcester (U.S.A.), and York.

News and Magazine Rooms.

Chapman, Samuel, Esq.	"Engineering."
Co-operative Society, Working Men's	"Co-operative News" and "Millgate Monthly."
Hurst, Joseph, Esq.	"Methodist Times."
Local Branch Independent Labour Party	"Labour Leader."
Pownall, Mr. Councillor ...	"National Church."
Also the Newspapers, &c. marked with an asterisk in the following list, which are presented by the Publishers.	

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, PERIODICALS AND REVIEWS, SUPPLIED TO THE NEWS AND READING ROOMS.

DAILY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Evening	London Times
Reporter, 2 copies	Manchester Courier, 2 copies
Birmingham Daily Post	Manchester Evening Chronicle,
Daily Graphic	2 copies
Freeman's Journal	Manchester Evening News, 2
Glasgow Herald	copies
Liverpool Daily Post and	Manchester Guardian, 2 copies
Mercury	Pall Mall Gazette
Lloyd's List	Westminster Gazette
London Daily Mail	Yorkshire Daily Observer
„ Daily News	Yorkshire Post
„ Daily Telegraph	

WEEKLY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Herald,	Era
4 copies	Exchange and Mart (Mon.
Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter,	Wed. and Fri.)
4 copies	Field
Athenæum	Fishing Gazette
Black and White	Gardener
* Board of Trade Journal	Gardeners' Chronicle
Bookseller	Graphic
Boy's Own Paper	Illustrated London News
British Congregationalist	Irish Catholic
British Journal of Photography	* Journal of the Society of Arts
British Weekly	Labour News
Builder	London Guardian
* Canada	Manchester City News
* Canadian Gazette	Municipal Journal
* Catholic Times	Manchester Weekly Times
Christian World	* Motor
* Civil Service Aspirant	* Motor Boat
* Civil Service Candidate	* Motor Traction
Clarion	Nature
* Commercial Motor	North Cheshire Herald
Cotton Factory Times	Oldham Chronicle
Country Life	* Patent Office Journal
County Gentleman and Land and Water	* Phonetic Journal
* Cycling.	Publishers' Circular
* Drapers' Record	Punch, 2 copies
* Electrical Engineer	Railway Review
Electrical Review	Saturday Review
Engineer	Schoolmaster
English Mechanic	Schoolmistress
	Sketch

Spectator
T. P.'s. Weekly
Textile Mercury

Truth
* University Correspondent
* Woodworker

MONTHLY.

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Antiquary | * Insurance Agent and the |
| Army List | Insurance Review |
| Badminton Magazine | * Journal of the Clerk of |
| Blackwood's Magazine | Works' Association |
| Bookman | Knowledge |
| C. B. Fry's Magazine | Liberator |
| Cassell's Family Magazine | * Liberty Review |
| Cassier's Magazine | McClure's Magazine |
| Century Magazine | * Machinery Market |
| Chamber's Journal | * Musical Herald |
| * Church of England League | Musical Opinion |
| Gazette | Musical Times |
| Contemporary Review | Naturalist |
| Cornhill Magazine | Nineteenth Century |
| * Educational Times | Pail Mall Magazine |
| Esperantist | Pearson's Magazine |
| * Foresters' Miscellany | Photographic Monthly |
| Fortnightly Review | * Positivist Review |
| * Great Western Railway | Progress (Magazine for the |
| Magazine | Blind) |
| Harmsworth Magazine | * Queensland Mining Journal |
| Harper's Monthly | Quiver |
| * Herald of Peace | Review of Reviews |
| Hora Jucunda (Magazine for | Royal Magazine |
| the Blind) | Scribner's Magazine |
| * Independent Methodist | * State Correspondent |

Strand Magazine	* Vaccination Inquirer
Studio	* Vegetarian Messenger
* Sunday Advocate and National Westminster Review	
Sunday League Record	Windsor Magazine
Textile Manufacturer	* Zoophilist
* Traveller's Gazette	

BI-MONTHLY.

The British Printer.

QUARTERLY.

Edinburgh Review	Post Office Guide
Hibbert Journal	Quarterly Review

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

Bradshaw's Guide	* Lancashire and Yorkshire
* Caledonian	* London and North Western
* Cambrian Railway	* London and South Western
* Furness	* London, Brighton, and
* Great Central	South Coast
* Great Eastern	* London, Chatham, and Dover
* Great Northern	* Midland
* Great Western	* South Eastern

DIRECTORIES.

Gore's Liverpool Directory
 Kelly's Directory of Birmingham, Staffordshire,
 Warwickshire, and Worcestershire

The "Times"	from 1881 to 1905.
The "Manchester Guardian"	,, 1883 to 1908.
The "Manchester Courier"	,, 1887 ,,
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter"	,, 1860 to date.
The "Stalybridge Herald"	for 1888.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Herald"	from 1889 to date.
The "Ashton Chronicle"	1848-49.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Standard,"	1860-66, 1870-83. and 1885.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne News"	from 1868-73.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION

PUBLIC FREE LIBRARY.

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LIBRARIAN,

FOR THE

Year ending March 17th, 1910.

Committee and Officers, 1909-1910.

CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR CLAYTON.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN :

ALDERMAN ROEBUCK.

THE MAYOR.

COUNCILLORS HAMER, HEAP, PEARSON, POLLITT,
POWNALL, REYNER AND WATERHOUSE.

HONORARY MEMBERS :

REV. L. CASSIDY, REV. J. M. CRAVEN,
REV. T. W. PUGHE-MORGAN, MESSRS. JOSEPH HURST
AND WILLIAM KELSALL, JUN.

"BOOKS" SUB-COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR CLAYTON.

THE MAYOR.

COUNCILLORS PEARSON, REYNER AND WATERHOUSE,
REV. J. M. CRAVEN.

LIBRARIAN :

GEO. FLETCHER.

SUB-LIBRARIAN :

R. F. MORRIS.

ASSISTANTS :

ERNEST OKELL AND HAROLD WHITEHEAD.

CARETAKER :

JOHN HOLLINGWORTH.

REPORT

OF THE LIBRARIAN OF THE

Public Free Library,

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.



To the Chairman and Members of the Free Library Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in placing before you the 16th Annual Report on the work of the Library during the year ending March 17th, 1910.

The Lending and Reference Departments of the Library have been open on 295 days during the year, and 92,161 books have been issued for home reading and reference purposes, giving a daily average of 378 volumes. These figures show a slight increase—1,212 to be exact—compared with those of the previous year, this increase having taken place in the Lending Department only. The total number of books issued in the Lending Department was 77,925 as compared with 76,484 issued during 1908-9, an increase of 1,441. The Reference Department is responsible for 14,236 issues, a decrease of 229 compared with the figures of the corresponding year.

An analysis of the Lending Department figures shows that with one exception every section has had an increased issue. The exception is the Juvenile Department, this section showing a decrease of 1,538 compared with the issue during 1908-9. The issue of non-fictional literature shows a higher proportional increase than that of fictional works, whilst the percentage of fiction issues is slightly lower than that of 1908-9, the figures being 54 and 55 for the respective years.

The following summary shows clearly the progress of the Library during the last few years. The first column contains the figures of the last complete year of work under the old system :—

	1905-6	1908-9	1909-10
Lending Department issues....	50,037 ..	76,484 ..	77,925
Lending and Reference Department Issues.....	74,907 ..	90,949 ..	92,161
Average Daily Issues (Lending Department)	208 ..	313 ..	319
Fiction Percentage	61 ..	55 ..	54
Number of Borrowers	2,534 ..	3,930 ..	4,059

When it is remembered that last year's figures were record figures in all departments of the Library's work, it will be seen that those for the year under review are very satisfactory in many respects. The evidence of a steady growth of interest in the resources of the Library is shown by the increase in the number of borrowers and the large increase in the number of books issued. The percentage of books issued of a non-fictional character is also commendably high.

The total number of books now in the Library is 20,519. The additions during the year number 757, and 690 of these have been purchased, 59 received as donations, and 8 acquired by subscription to various learned societies. Seventy-two volumes have been discarded during the year.

The number of borrowers' tickets in force is 4,059 as compared with 3,930 in March, 1909. Of these 3,562 are ordinary tickets; 497 the extra tickets used for non-fictional works; 662 are juvenile readers' tickets, and the special reference tickets number 12.

The number of borrowers from each of the three districts served by the Library is as follows :—

Ashton-under-Lyne	3,101	with	3,515	tickets.
Hurst	253	with	296	tickets.
Waterloo	208	with	248	tickets.

The arrangements made between this Committee and the outside authorities of Hurst and Waterloo whereby the residents in these districts are enabled to use the Library continue to give satisfaction, and the Military Authorities at the Barracks have again paid their annual subscription of £5. Ten half yearly subscriptions have also been received from borrowers who live outside the library area.

In December last this Committee became an Honorary Member of the National Home-Reading Union. The Union exists for the purpose of guiding and assisting readers of all ages in the choice of books and in self-education. Definite courses of reading on various subjects with select lists of books are started in the September of each year, and magazines

containing articles on the books are published monthly during the sessions. By becoming an Honorary Member of the Union the Library obtains all the Book Lists and Magazines published and is thus brought into touch with the Union and its work. The Magazines are placed in a special case in the Magazine Room and notices drawing attention to the Home-Reading Union and its work have been placed in the reading case and displayed on the glass screen at the counter.

The arrangement entered into between the Committee and Smiths' Subscription Library has been continued and appears to give every satisfaction. By its means we are enabled to keep up-to-date with all works of travel, biography and general literature.

The special collections of books displayed during the year have been three in number, viz. :—" Books on Out-door Life, Sports, Gardening, Agriculture, etc." ; "Recent Additions to the Library," being a selection from the additions of the last two years; and, "The General Election, 1910: Books to Read." This last collection contained books on all the subjects likely to interest people of all varieties of social, economic and political opinions, and was very successful as a means of drawing attention to the resources of the Library in these subjects, the increase in this class of literature—"Social and Political Science"—being 60 per cent. over last year's figures.

The usual care has been exercised by the Books Sub-Committee which has met monthly and made recommendations of books for addition to the Library.

A matter which ought to receive consideration by this Committee is the provision of up-to-date standard works of a technical character. Library authorities generally are now realising that if the municipal Library is to take its proper place as a factor in education it must do much more than provide for the needs of those who require what may be described as "interesting" literature. A continuous indulgence in works of travel, biography, popular science works, light essays, etc., can become as uninforming a proceeding and as mentally debilitating as the continuous and unvaried reading of the lightest novels. Such works are necessary in any public library, but, in our own case I think the needs of the student and the practical man ought to receive more attention than it has perhaps been possible to give to them in the past. Books of a technical character in the sciences, useful and fine arts, social and political science, philosophy and religion are usually more costly and certainly do not command the large circulation of the more popular works, but it is impossible to estimate the lasting benefits that may accrue to the community whose members are able to obtain at first-hand knowledge concerning the best principles and practices in particular trades and industries; up-to-date information on social, economic and political matters, and reasoned and scholarly contributions to modern thought on philosophical and religious subjects.

The monthly lists of additions continue to be published in both local papers and the reprints supplied under the arrangement with the proprietors of the Ashton-under-Lyne *Reporter* are presented gratis to the borrowers. Our thanks are tendered to the Editor of the Ashton-under-Lyne *Herald*

for his kindness in publishing the lists gratuitously in the columns of his paper.

During the year the Newspaper Room was painted and decorated, and arrangements are being made for the Magazine Room to be done in a similar manner at an early date. The electric lighting installation of these rooms has also undergone some re-arrangement with a consequent improvement in the illumination and a reduction in current consumption.

In the last annual report attention was drawn to the desirability of having separate rooms for Ladies, Juveniles, and the Reference Collection of books. A Reference Room ought to be regarded as a necessity in every Municipal Library of any size, and, in fact, is so regarded and provision made for it in all modern library buildings. The Committee has had the matter under consideration, but at the time it was recognised that nothing could be done until the question of the future location of the Secondary School had been settled. Now that it has been decided to erect a new Secondary School in some other part of the Borough, future consideration of this somewhat important matter will not be hampered by this restriction.

In conclusion I beg to express my appreciation of the interest the Chairman and Members of this Committee have at all times taken in the Library and its Staff. To each member of my staff a word of praise is also due for efforts put forth to make the work of the Library successful.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. FLETCHER.

Number of Volumes in Stock on March 17th, 1910.

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

Sciences	922
Useful Arts	568
Fine and Recreative Arts.....	579
Social and Political Science.....	553
Philosophy and Religion	673
History and Geography.....	2608
Biography and Correspondence	1404
Language and Literature	491
Poetry and Drama	780
Prose Fiction	2921
Juvenile Literature.....	1234
Miscellaneous	647

13380

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT	6538
Books for the Blind	601

TOTAL..... 20519

Lending Department.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

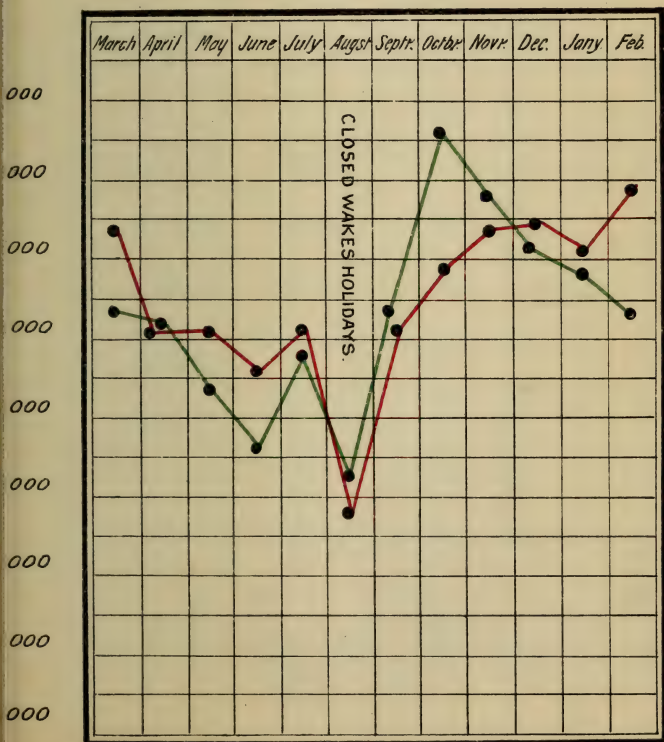
1909. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts.	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspondence.	Language and Literature	Poetry and Drama.	Prose Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	* Daily Average.
March															
18th to 31st...	98	112	107	41	36	205	80	43	39	1851	603	55	3270	12	327
April	192	185	182	97	78	371	131	66	71	3415	1139	77	6004	23	316
May	205	176	159	89	91	356	114	65	69	3449	1148	94	6015	25	286
June	199	160	156	85	76	406	130	77	82	3213	1029	82	5695	24	300
July	204	172	163	101	66	470	100	70	71	3515	1188	66	6186	27	269
August															
3rd to 19th, & 30th & 31st...	119	84	100	69	41	234	64	48	39	2182	781	53	3314	17	286
September...	170	179	179	103	89	383	134	70	65	3372	1190	87	6021	26	274
October	190	174	179	121	101	439	144	74	72	3801	1526	98	6929	26	315
November...	259	254	186	131	104	529	172	103	84	3718	1738	123	7401	26	352
December ... 1910.	227	210	171	221	127	497	141	106	84	3882	1636	114	7416	25	353
January	200	167	179	298	93	475	154	86	71	3656	1747	77	7203	25	343
February ... March	250	219	190	233	91	578	165	122	81	3967	1858	135	7889	24	394
1st to 17th ...	142	137	109	83	53	286	75	64	48	2132	888	65	4082	15	340
Totals 1909-10.	2455	2229	2060	1672	1046	5229	1604	994	876	42153	16481	1126	77925	295	319
Totals 1908-9.	2334	2121	2037	1042	782	4471	1311	680	807	41784	18019	1096	76484	295	313

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

Diagram showing Monthly issue in the Lending Department during the last two years.

Red Line Issue for year 1909-10.

Green Line " " " 1908-9.



Reference Department.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1909. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts.	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspondence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily * Average.
March													
18th to 31st...	17	6	322	2	12	12	10	4	3	203	519	12	59
April	33	9	619	6	22	32	7	14	5	387	1134	23	60
May	20	13	665	9	15	23	13	9	8	419	1194	25	57
June	13	8	645	3	14	24	10	9	3	409	1138	24	60
July	17	11	725	2	14	21	10	13	5	465	1284	27	56
August													
3rd to 19th, & 30th & 31st ...	25	12	458	5	11	13	8	5	2	257	796	17	61
September...	18	18	698	—	21	19	16	13	1	448	1252	26	57
October	22	13	687	3	14	49	4	15	8	440	1255	26	57
November	27	13	696	4	22	32	16	16	6	441	1273	26	61
December ... 1910.	26	10	669	3	14	60	11	7	5	423	1228	25	59
January	21	18	672	4	24	13	14	1	6	417	1190	25	57
February ...	34	13	642	3	24	20	11	12	4	408	1171	24	59
March													
1st to 17th ...	24	3	399	7	13	15	6	5	2	256	730	15	61
Totals 1909-10.	297	147	7897	51	220	333	136	123	58	4974	14236	295	58
Totals 1903-9.	421	147	7889	38	184	262	250	111	75	5088	14465	295	59

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

Lending and Reference Departments Combined.

1909. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts	Fine and Recreative Arts	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspondence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction. Prose.	Juvenile Literature.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	* Daily Average.
March															
18th to 31st ...	115	118	429	43	48	217	90	47	42	1851	603	258	3861	12	386
April	225	194	801	103	100	403	138	80	76	3415	1139	464	7138	23	376
May	225	189	824	98	106	379	127	74	77	3449	1148	513	7209	25	343
June	212	168	801	88	90	430	140	86	85	3213	1029	491	6833	24	360
July	221	183	888	103	80	451	110	83	76	3515	1188	532	7470	27	325
August															
3rd to 19th, & 30th & 31st ...	144	96	558	74	52	247	72	53	41	2182	781	310	4610	17	355
September ...	188	197	877	163	110	402	150	83	66	3372	1190	535	7273	26	331
October	212	187	866	124	115	488	148	89	80	3801	1536	538	8184	26	372
November ...	286	267	882	135	126	561	188	119	90	3718	1738	564	8674	26	413
December ... 1910.	253	220	840	224	141	557	152	113	89	3882	1636	537	8644	25	412
January	221	185	851	302	117	488	168	87	77	3656	1747	494	8393	25	400
February ...	284	232	832	236	115	598	176	134	85	3967	1858	543	9060	24	453
March															
1st to 17th ...	166	140	508	90	66	301	81	69	50	2132	888	321	4812	15	401
Totals 1909-10.	2752	2376	9957	1723	1266	5562	1740	1117	934	42153	16481	6100	92161	295	378
Totals 1908-9.	2755	2288	9926	1080	966	4733	1561	791	882	41784	18019	6184	90949	295	373

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

General Summary.

LENDING AND REFERENCE DEPARTMENTS.

Volumes presented	59
Volumes purchased :—	
Replacements	92
Additions	690
Volumes of Societies' Publications obtained by Subscription	8
Volumes bound	158
Volumes in Stock	20519
Total number of Issues	92161
Average Daily Issue	378
Tickets in force	4059
Overdue books written for	1766
Volumes returned from Infected Houses and Destroyed	Nil

General Data.

Population (Census 1901) Ashton-under-Lyne	43890
Do. do. Hurst	7145
Do. do. Waterloo	3858
Rateable Value	£196,483 15s. 0d.
Public Libraries' Act adopted	1880
News Room (Town Hall) opened	1st August, 1881
Library (Town Hall) opened by the Mayoress (Mrs. Ely Andrew)	25th March, 1882
Library (Town Hall) closed preparatory to the re- cataloguing and removing of books to the Hegin- bottom Free Library	22nd April, 1893
Heginbottom Technical School and Free Library formally opened by the Mayor (Alderman Ely Andrew) and Alderman Thos. Heginbottom, 1st July, 1893	
Books removed from Town Hall to new Building, December, 1893	
News Room opened	1st January, 1894
Issue of books re-commenced	19th March, 1894
Juvenile Department opened	14th May, 1896
Library closed for alterations preparatory to the adop- tion of the Open Access System	31st July, 1906
Library opened on the Open Access System, 1st November, 1906	

Donors of Books, Pamphlets, &c.

Year Ending 17th March, 1910.

v volumes. r. reports. p, pamphlets.

Agent General for Australia.....	3	v
Ashton, R., Esq.....	1	v
Ashton, Stalybridge, and Dukinfield Blind Society.....	1	r
Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary	1	r
Benson, Miss Susanna.....	1	v
Board of Trade	5	r
Brighton Corporation.....	1	p
Briscoe, J. Potter Esq. F.R.S.L.	12	p
British Museum Trustees	12	v 3 p
Bromley, F. W., Esq.	3	r
Buxton Advertising Committee	1	p
Cambrian Railway Co.	6	p
Casson, Herbert N., Esq.	1	v
Chinnock, Rev. Edward J., LL.D.	1	p
Co-operative Wholesale Societies, Ltd.....	2	v
Commissioner of Education, U.S.A.	2	r
Director of Experimental Farms in Canada	4	r
Fletcher, Geo., Esq.....	1	v
Gerrard, John, Esq.....	1	r
Guppy, Henry Esq., M.A.	1	v 2 p
Hall, Wm.. Esq., M A.....	1	v
Hall, W. C., Esq.....	1	p
High Commisioner for New Zealand	15	p 9 r

Homeland Association, Ltd.	1 v
Howorth, Daniel F., Esq.	1 v
Hoylake and West Kirkby U.D.C.	1 p
International Arbitration League	1 v
International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners	1 r
John Hopkins Press.....	7 v
Kemp, Chas.. Esq.....	1 v
Lancashire & Yorkshire Rly. Co.....	9 p
Layton, Messrs. C. & E.	2 p
London Publicity Co., Ltd.....	1 v
London University Correspondence College	1 v
Longmans & Co	1 v
Macmillan & Co	1 v
Madeley, Chas., Esq.....	1 v
Mather & Crowther, Messrs.	1 v
Medical Officer of Health for the County	1 r
Minton, Rev. Francis, M.A.	1 v
National Union of Teachers	1 r
Neal, John, Esq.	4 v
North Eastern Railway Co.	6 p 2 v
Paton, Messrs. J. & J.....	1 v
Peace Society.....	1 p
Pitman, Sir Isaac & Sons, Ltd.....	1 v
Royal Agricultural Society	1 v
Salvation Army.....	1 v
Sharp, Stephen. Esq.....	1 Photo
Smithsonian Institution, U.S.A.	2 v
Snell, W. E. Esq.	1 v
Society of Accountants and Auditors	1 v
Southport Corporation	1 p
Sutton, Chas. W., Esq., M.A.	1 v
Theosophical Society	1 v
" Watchman "	1 v

Annual Reports from the following Libraries:—Aberdeen, Accrington, Altrincham, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Aston Manor, Baltimore (U.S.A.), Barnsley, Barrow-in-Furness, Barry, Battersea, Bebington, Belfast, Birmingham, Bishopgate Foundation Institute, Blackburn, Bolton, Bootle, Bournemouth, Bradford, Bradford Mechanics' Institute, Brighton, Bristol, Buffalo (U.S.A.), Bury, Buxton, Calcutta, Cambridge, Cambridge University, Cardiff, Cheltenham, Chiswick, Chorley, Christchurch (N.Z.), Clitheroe, Colchester, Cork, Council Bluffs (U.S.A.) Cripplegate Foundation Institute, Derby, Detroit (U.S.A.), Devonport, Dewsbury, Doncaster, Dukinfield, Dumbarton, Dundee, Durban (S.A.), Ealing, East London (S.A.), Eastbourne, Eccles, Erith, Folkestone, Gateshead, Gloucester, Govan, Grays, Great Yarmouth, Hammer-smith, Hanley, Hartlepool, Haslingden, Hornsey, Hove, Huddersfield, Hyde, Keighley, Kensal Rise, Kendal, Kettering, Kidderminster, Kingston-upon-Thames, Knutsford, Leeds, Leicester, Leigh, Leyton, Lincoln, Loughborough, Maidenhead, Manchester, Middlesbrough, Midland Railway Institute (Derby), Montrose, Nelson, New Orleans (U.S.A.), New South Wales, New York (U.S.A.), Newark-on-Trent, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Nottingham, Oldbury, Oldham, Paisley, Penarth, Perth, Plymouth, Portland (U.S.A.), Portsmouth, Preston, Providence (U.S.A.), Rawtenstall, Richmond (Surrey), Rochdale, Rochester, Rothwell, Rugby, Runcorn, St. Annes-on-the-Sea, St. Bride Foundation Institute, St. Helens, St. Louis (U.S.A.), Salisbury, Scranton (U.S.A.), Shoreditch, Smethwick, South Australia, South Shields, Stafford, Stirling's and Glasgow, Stockport, Stoke Newington, Stratford-upon-Avon, Taunton, Toronto (Canada), Torquay, Tottenham, Tynemouth, Walthamstow, Wandsworth, Watford, West Bromwich, West Hartlepool, Westminster, Whitehaven, Widnes, Wigan, Willesden Green, Worcester (U.S.A.), Workington, and York.

News and Magazine Rooms.

Chapman, Samuel, Esq.	“Engineering.”
Co-operative Society, Working Men’s	“Co-operative News” and “Millgate Monthly.”
Hurst, Joseph, Esq.	“Methodist Times.”
Local Branch Independent Labour Party	“Labour Leader.”
Pownall, Mr. Councillor ...	“National Church.”

Also the Newspapers, &c. marked with an asterisk in the following list, which are presented by the Publishers.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, PERIODICALS
AND REVIEWS, SUPPLIED TO THE NEWS
AND READING ROOMS.

DAILY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Evening	London Times
Reporter, 2 copies	Manchester Courier, 2 copies
Birmingham Daily Post	Manchester Evening Chronicle,
Daily Graphic	2 copies
Freeman's Journal	Manchester Evening News, 2
Glasgow Herald	copies
Liverpool Daily Post and	Manchester Guardian, 2 copies
Mercury	Pall Mall Gazette
Lloyd's List	Westminster Gazette
London Daily Mail	Yorkshire Daily Observer
„ Daily News	Yorkshire Post
„ Daily Telegraph	

WEEKLY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Herald,	Engineer
4 copies	English Mechanic
Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter,	Era
4 copies	Exchange and Mart (Mon.
Athenæum	Wed. and Fri.)
* Bible Advocate	Field
Black and White	Fishing Gazette
* Board of Trade Journal	Gardener
Bookseller	Gardeners' Chronicle
Boy's Own Paper	Graphic
British Congregationalist	Illustrated London News
British Journal of Photography	Irish Catholic
British Weekly	Iron and Coal Trades' Review
Builder	* Journal of the Society of Arts
* Canada	Labour News
* Canadian Gazette	London Guardian
* Catholic Times	Manchester City News
Christian World	Municipal Journal
* Civil Service Aspirant	Manchester Weekly Times
* Civil Service Candidate	* Motor
Clarion	* Motor Boat
* Commercial Motor	* Motor Cycling
* Contractors' Record	* Motor Traction
Cotton Factory Times	Nation
Country Life	Nature
County Gentleman and Land	North Cheshire Herald
and Water	Oldham Chronicle
* Cycling.	* Patent Office Journal
* Drapers' Record	* Phonetic Journal
* Electrical Engineer	Publishers' Circular
Electrical Review	Punch, 2 copies

Railway Review
 Saturday Review
 Schoolmaster
 Schoolmistress
 Sketch
 Spectator

* Standard of Empire
 T. P's. Weekly
 Textile Mercury
 Truth
 * University Correspondent
 * Woodworker

MONTHLY.

Antiquary
 Army List
 Badminton Magazine
 Blackwood's Magazine
 Bookman
 C. B. Fry's Magazine
 Cassell's Family Magazine
 Cassier's Magazine
 Century Magazine
 Chamber's Journal
 * Church of England League
 Gazette
 Contemporary Review
 Cornhill Magazine
 * Educational Times
 Englishwoman
 Esperantist
 * Foresters' Miscellany
 Fortnightly Review
 * Great Western Railway
 Magazine
 Harper's Monthly
 * Herald of Peace

* Highway
 Hora Jucunda (Magazine for
 the Blind)
 * Independent Methodist
 * Insurance Agent and the
 Insurance Review
 * Journal of the Clerk of
 Works' Association
 Knowledge
 Liberator
 * Liberty Review
 McClure's Magazine
 * Machinery Market
 * Musical Herald
 Musical Opinion
 Musical Times
 National Home-Reading Union
 Magazines
 Naturalist
 * New Church Magazine
 Nineteenth Century
 Outing Magazine
 Pall Mall Magazine

Pearson's Magazine	Strand Magazine
Photographic Monthly	Studio
* Positivist Review	* Sunday Advocate and National
Progress (Magazine for the Blind)	Sunday League Record
* Queensland Mining Journal	Textile Manufacturer
Quiver	* Traveller's Gazette
Review of Reviews	* Vaccination Inquirer
Royal Magazine	* Vegetarian Messenger
Scottish Field	Westminster Review
Scribner's Magazine	Windsor Magazine
* State Correspondent	* Zoophilist

BI-MONTHLY.

The British Printer.

QUARTERLY.

Edinburgh Review	Post Office Guide
Hibbert Journal	Quarterly Review
Navy List	

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

Bradshaw's Guide	* Lancashire and Yorkshire
* Caledonian	* London and North Western
* Cambrian Railway	* London and South Western
* Furness	* London, Brighton, and South Coast
* Great Central	* London, Chatham, and Dover
* Great Eastern	* Midland
* Great Northern	* South Eastern
* Great Western	

DIRECTORIES.

Gore's Liverpool Directory

Kelly's Directory of Birmingham

Kelly's Directory of Birmingham, Staffordshire,
Warwickshire, and Worcestershire

Kelly's Directory of Cheshire

Kelly's Directory of Lancashire

Kelly's Directory of Manchester, Salford, and Suburban

Kelly's Post Office London Directory

Kelly's Textile Directory

Kelly's West Riding of Yorkshire

* Macdonald's Directory

* Practical Advertising

Sell's World's Press

* Stubbs' Directory

FILES OF NEWSPAPERS.

The "Times"from 1881 to 1905.

The "Manchester Guardian" , 1883 to 1908.

The "Manchester Courier"....., 1887..

The "Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter" , 1860 to date.

The "Stalybridge Herald" for 1888.

The "Ashton-under-Lyne Herald" from 1889 to date.

The "Ashton Chronicle" 1848-49.

The "Ashton-under-Lyne Standard," 1860-66, 1870-83.
and 1885.

The "Ashton-under-Lyne News".....from 1868-73.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION.

PUBLIC FREE LIBRARY.

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LIBRARIAN,

FOR THE

Year ending March 17th, 1911.

Committee and Officers, 1910-1911.

CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR HEAP.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN :

REV. F. R. C. HUTTON, M.A.

THE MAYOR.

ALDERMAN KENWORTHY.

COUNCILLORS CLAYTON, F. HAMER, PEARSON AND
POLLITT.

HONORARY MEMBERS :

REV. J. M. CRAVEN, REV. T. W. PUGHE-MORGAN,
MESSRS. SAMUEL BAGULEY, T. E. CRYER, JOHN
HULME AND WALTER SCHOLES.

"BOOKS" SUB-COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR HEAP.

THE MAYOR.

REV. F. R. C. HUTTON, M.A.

ALDERMAN KENWORTHY.

COUNCILLORS CLAYTON AND PEARSON.

REV. J. M. CRAVEN.

LIBRARIAN :

GEO. FLETCHER.

SUB-LIBRARIAN :

R. F. MORRIS.

ASSISTANTS :

CHARLES NOWELL AND A. R. RICHARDSON.

CARETAKER :

JOHN HOLLINGWORTH.

REPORT
OF THE LIBRARIAN OF THE
Public Free Library,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.



To the Chairman and Members of the Free Library Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the 17th Annual Report on the work of the Library for the year ending March 17th, 1911.

It is pleasing to record that the popularity of the Library amongst the reading public is being well maintained. Last year's figures were a record in every department of the Library's work, but the statistics of figures for the year under review are higher still.

The Lending and Reference Departments have been open on 294 days during the year, and 95,733 books have been issued for home reading and reference purposes, giving a daily average of 326 volumes, as compared with 312 for 1909-10. But if the fact that Tuesday (3 hours) and Saturday (8 hours) are counted as one day, is taken into consideration, the daily averages become 391 and 378 respectively. The number of books issued for home reading was 81,394, as against 77,925 for the previous year, an increase of 3,469 ; and those issued for reference purposes number 14,339, as against 14,236 for the corresponding year, an increase of 103 volumes.

An analysis of the Lending Department issues shows that increases have taken place in the following classes of literature :—

Sciences	55
Useful Arts.....	313
Fiction	2020
Juvenile	1988
Miscellaneous	88

And decreases in :—

Fine and Recreative Arts	219
Social and Political Science	174
Philosophy and Religion.....	146
History and Geography	297
Biography and Correspondence	49
Language and Literature	73
Poetry and Drama	37

The following summary indicates clearly the increase in the work and usefulness of the Library during the last few years. The figures of the first column are those of the last complete year of work under the indicator system :—

	1905-6	1909-10	1910-11
Lending Department issues	50,037 ..	77,925 ..	81,394
Lending and Reference Department Issues	74,907 ..	92,161 ..	95,733
Average Daily Issues (Lending Department)	208 ..	319 ..	332
Fiction Percentage.....	61 ..	54 ..	54
Number of Borrowers	2,534 ..	4,059 ..	3,898

The total number of books now in the Library is 21,250. The additions during the year number 773, and of these 605

have been purchased, 130 received as donations, and 38 acquired by subscription to various learned societies. Forty-two volumes have been permanently withdrawn during the year.

The number of borrowers' tickets in force is 3898, as compared with 4059 in March, 1910. Of these 2892 are ordinary tickets ; 437 the extra tickets used for non-fictional works only ; 556 are juvenile readers' tickets, and the special reference tickets number 13.

The arrangement entered into between the Committee and Smiths' Subscription Library continues to give every satisfaction.

The annual subscriptions of £50 and £25 from the Local authorities of Hurst and Waterloo respectively have again been paid, and judging from the number of residents of these districts who use the Library the arrangement continues to give every satisfaction. The Military Authorities at the Barracks have again paid their annual subscription of £5, and ten half-yearly subscriptions have been received from persons resident outside the Library area.

The number of borrowers from each of the districts served by the Library is as follows :—

Ashton-under-Lyne ..	2960	with	3311	tickets.
Hurst	284	do.	325	do.
Waterloo.....	208	do.	244	do.
Other districts	9	do.	18	do.

Last spring and summer the special collection of " Books on Outdoor Life, Sports, Gardening, Agriculture, etc," was again displayed, and appeared to be appreciated. During the December General Election a collection from the

books on social, political, and economic questions was made and shelved separately and attention drawn to them. The increased interest in such subjects, though momentary, was very gratifying.

The Books Sub-Committee has again met regularly and has exercised its usual care in considering the books recommended for addition to the Library.

In the last annual report attention was drawn to the need that existed in the Library for standard works of a technical character. It was pointed out that a Public Library ought to be a prominent factor in the educational resources of a district, and that one way of ensuring that it became this was by providing works which would be helpful to the workers in the various industries, trades and occupations. As was stated then "Books of a technical character in the sciences, useful and fine arts, social and political science, philosophy and religion are usually more costly and certainly do not command the large circulation of the more popular works, but it is impossible to estimate the lasting benefits that may accrue to the community whose members are able to obtain, at first-hand, knowledge concerning the best principles and practices in particular trades and industries; up-to-date information on social, economic and political matters, and reasoned and scholarly contributions to modern thought on philosophical and religious subjects."

The Committee having recently considered this matter, is hoped that, as a result of the resolution instructing the Books Sub-Committee to include works of a technological character in its recommendations of new books, the disability

under which the Library at present suffers will in course of time be removed.

A feature of interest was the display last summer of the collection of holiday literature. The various railway, steamship and other authorities were approached and copies of their holiday and similar publications solicited. As a result a large quantity of literature comprising guide books, booklets, leaflets, photographs, etc., was received and displayed on three large tables in the entrance hall of the Library. The publications relating to the various districts were kept together, and in addition to the notices we were able to display, the local press kindly drew attention to the innovation. The exhibition was one which, judging from the number of persons round the tables, particularly in the evenings, appealed to many besides borrowers from the Library.

The monthly lists of additions to the Library are published in both local papers, and the reprints supplied under arrangement with the proprietors of the Ashton-under-Lyne "Reporter" are distributed gratis to the borrowers. To the Editor of the Ashton-under-Lyne "Herald" our thanks are tendered for his kindness in publishing the lists gratuitously in the columns of his paper.

A matter which ought to receive attention is that concerning the use of the Library by juvenile borrowers. The upkeep of the Juvenile Department is, speaking comparatively, the most costly of any of our departments. As there is no charge made for tickets, and as any child in the Library area between the ages of ten and fourteen is entitled to become a borrower, it is found that in very many cases

young persons apply for a Library Ticket simply because some one or other of their acquaintances has done the same. This in itself should not call for condemnation, but unfortunately, a majority of these young persons appear to lack cleanliness, both of clothes and person, and although every effort is made to see that only those whose hands are clean are allowed inside the Library, it is another matter to exclude those whose clothes are, to say the least, dirty. Another objection to this class of reader is that often after using the Library a few times their interest in it wanes. The usual result of this is that they incur a fine of a few pence by keeping their books longer than the time allowed for reading, and then without paying the fine, return them by another person with a request that their ticket may be cancelled. In many towns the issue of books to children of school age is carried on through the elementary schools. In some cases each school has a permanent collection of books, which is added to from time to time, whilst in others collections of books are circulated amongst the various schools. The first cost of the books is defrayed either separately or jointly by the local Education Authority and the Free Library Committee, and usually the cost of upkeep—replacements and repairs—falls upon the Library Committee. The issue to the young readers is in the hands of some member of the teaching staff of the school, and this teacher, knowing the child, its mental capacity, etc., and perhaps having some knowledge of its home surroundings can thus exercise some control over its reading.

In order to ascertain the opinion of the Head Teachers of the town as to the feasibility of such a scheme for Ashton-under-Lyne, an informal Meeting of the Members of the

Head Teachers' Association was held last summer, to which the past Chairman (Mr. Councillor Clayton) and myself were invited. The matter was discussed in all its bearings, and the meeting was unanimous in its opinion that some system of school libraries for the borough was very desirable.

Failing the establishment of a system of school libraries a partial solution of our difficulty might be found by requiring every applicant for a juvenile ticket to obtain the signature of a head teacher to his or her form of application, either in addition to or in place of the usual guarantee. I believe that the Head Teachers, so long as they were not held responsible for any breach of the rules committed by the borrower, would be willing to sign the forms of those children, who, in their opinion, would benefit by using the Library. If something of this character were done, it is quite certain that there would be a decrease both in the number of juvenile borrowers and the books issued. But the wear and tear on the books would be much less, and probably a better class of juvenile readers generally would be the ultimate result.

In previous reports attention has been drawn to the necessity for providing better accommodation for the Reference collection of books. The present system of shelving the books round the gallery of the Lending Department is far from being satisfactory, but, as was stated in the last annual report, nothing can be done regarding the provision of separate accommodation for this department until a new Secondary School is built. In order, however, to bring the department more up to date, the collection of books is now being gone through, classified and re-catalogued, and the obsolete and ephemeral works withdrawn. Included in the collection was a large number of Government Publications

("Calendars of State Papers," and "Chronicles and Memorials of Great Britain,") which took up much space on the shelves and appeared to serve no useful purpose to the residents of this district. By order of the Committee these have been returned to the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office. When the work of "weeding-out" the stock of the Reference Department has been accomplished, it is intended to relieve the congestion now being shown in certain sections of the Lending Library, by taking a number of the older and seldom used books from this Department and placing them on the vacant shelves of the Reference Department. These books will still be available for home reading, but borrowers requiring them will have to make application at the Library counter.

There have been some changes in the staff of the Library during the past year. Mr. E. Okell, Senior Assistant, who obtained the Merit Certificate of the Library Association for Library Routine, has been appointed Senior Assistant in the Bolton Public Libraries. Mr. Harold Whitehead, Junior Assistant, was promoted to the position of Senior Assistant, and Alex. R. Richardson was appointed Junior Assistant. Mr. Whitehead has since resigned and gone to Canada, and Mr. Chas. Nowell of the Kendal Public Library has been appointed to the vacant position.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. FLETCHER.

Number of Volumes in Stock on March 17th, 1911.

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

Sciences	960
Useful Arts	616
Fine and Recreative Arts.....	608
Social and Political Science.....	592
Philosophy and Religion	693
History and Geography.....	2705
Biography and Correspondence	1421
Language and Literature	507
Poetry and Drama	794
Prose Fiction	3053
Juvenile Literature.....	1286
Miscellaneous	688

13923

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT	6726
Books for the Blind	601

TOTAL..... 21250

Lending Department,

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

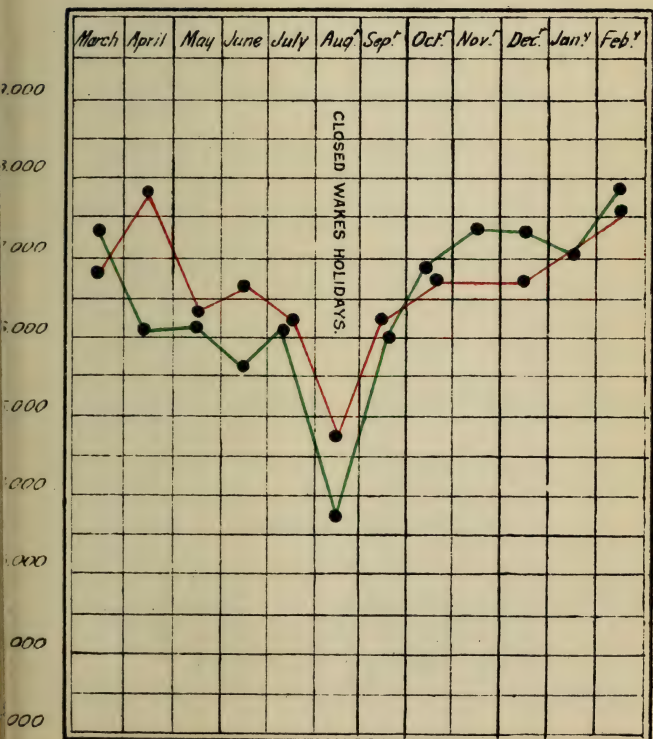
1910. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspond- ence.	Language and Literature	Poetry and Drama.	Prose Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	* Daily Average.
March 18 to 24	81	97	73	40	38	206	61	42	35	1565	572	53	2863	9	409
and 29 to 31...	271	225	178	120	89	534	161	114	86	4230	1812	92	7912	26	360
April	192	149	168	84	63	376	139	101	55	3330	1583	104	6344	23	332
May	215	194	163	124	73	437	131	102	71	3669	1457	96	6732	26	306
June	212	211	143	106	66	398	153	88	60	3451	1274	73	6235	26	283
July															
August															
2nd to 18th, &															
29th to 31st...	136	159	139	89	63	333	86	70	46	2580	1017	77	4795	18	343
September...	211	195	146	110	89	320	144	78	63	3370	1396	89	6211	26	282
October...	233	209	158	133	69	364	132	59	76	3746	1657	118	6954	26	316
November...	177	219	125	136	77	376	116	61	66	3733	1747	105	6988	26	330
December...	186	194	112	172	63	376	112	45	45	3813	1709	110	6937	26	315
1911.															
January.....	205	243	176	136	70	418	117	61	82	4007	1596	102	7213	24	361
February...	228	267	168	158	98	491	136	63	97	4047	1621	132	7506	24	375
March															
1st to 17th...	163	180	92	90	42	303	67	37	57	2632	1028	63	4754	15	366
Totals 1910-11.	2510	2542	1841	1498	900	4932	1555	921	839	44173	18469	1214	81394	294	332
Totals 1909-10.	2455	2229	2060	1672	1046	5229	1604	994	876	42153	16481	1126	77925	295	319

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

Diagram showing Monthly issue in the Lending Department during the Last two years.

Red Line Issue for year 1910-11.

Green Line " " " 1909-10.



REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1910. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts.	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspond- ence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average. *
March 18 to 24 and 29 to 31...	13	3	245	5	9	8	3	2	1	159	448	9	64
April	38	12	700	11	24	24	13	5	2	453	1282	26	58
May	35	13	627	14	17	26	11	5	1	394	1143	23	64
June	39	13	701	7	25	26	12	9	4	446	1282	26	58
July	30	14	699	2	24	17	17	7	7	448	1265	26	58
August													
2nd to 18th, & 29th to 31st ...	18	3	474	3	9	6	10	5	2	298	828	18	59
September ...	22	4	684	41	11	23	9	11	5	442	1252	26	57
October	17	11	687	8	13	18	12	10	10	438	1224	26	56
November ...	16	13	705	10	11	19	8	8	10	457	1257	26	60
December ...	17	12	672	11	6	13	14	11	8	448	1212	25	55
1911.													
January	11	19	674	8	7	17	7	6	9	434	1192	24	60
February ...	11	21	672	8	9	15	8	6	14	437	1201	24	60
March													
1st to 17th ..	11	11	421	8	3	16	1	2	9	271	753	15	58
Totals 1910-11.	278	149	7961	136	168	228	125	87	82	5125	14339	294	59
Totals 1909-10.	297	147	7897	51	220	333	136	123	58	4974	14236	295	58

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

Lending and Reference Departments Combined.

1910. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts	Fine and Recreative Arts	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspond- ence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average. *
March 18 to 24 and 29 to 31 ...	94	100	318	45	47	214	64	44	36	1565	572	212	3311	9	473
April	309	237	878	131	113	558	174	119	88	4230	1812	545	9194	26	418
May	227	162	795	98	80	402	150	106	56	3330	1583	498	7487	23	416
June	254	207	864	131	98	463	143	111	75	3689	1457	542	8014	26	364
July	242	225	842	108	90	415	170	95	67	3451	1274	521	7500	26	341
August															
2nd to 18th, & 29th to 31st..	154	162	613	92	72	339	96	75	48	2580	1017	375	5623	18	402
September...	233	199	830	151	100	343	153	89	68	3370	1396	531	7463	26	339
October	250	220	845	141	82	382	144	69	86	3746	1657	556	8178	26	372
November...	193	232	830	146	88	395	124	69	76	3733	1747	562	8195	26	390
December ...	203	206	784	183	69	389	126	56	53	3813	1709	558	8149	25	370
1911.															
January	216	262	850	144	77	435	124	67	91	4007	1596	536	8405	24	420
February ...	239	288	840	166	107	506	144	69	111	4047	1621	569	8707	24	435
March															
1st to 17th ...	174	191	513	98	45	319	68	39	66	2632	1028	334	5507	15	424
Totals 1910-11.	2785	2691	9802	1634	1068	5160	1680	1008	921	44173	18469	6339	95733	294	391
Totals 1909-10	2752	2376	9957	1723	1266	5562	1740	1117	934	42153	16481	6100	92161	295	378

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

General Summary.

LENDING AND REFERENCE DEPARTMENTS.

Volumes presented	130
Volumes purchased:—	
Replacements	460
Additions	605
Volumes of Societies' Publications obtained by	
Subscription	38
Volumes bound	478
Volumes in Stock.....	21250
Total number of Issues	95733
Average Daily Issue	391
Tickets in force	3898
Overdue books written for	1734
Volumes returned from Infected Houses and Destroyed	Nil

General Data.

Population (Census 1901) Ashton-under-Lyne	43890
Do. do. Hurst	7145
Do. do. Waterloo	3858
Rateable Value	£197,298 9s. 0d.
Public Libraries' Act adopted	1880
News Room (Town Hall) opened.....	1st August, 1881
Library (Town Hall) opened by the Mayoress (Mrs. Ely Andrew)	25th March, 1882
Library (Town Hall) closed preparatory to the re- cataloguing and removing of books to the Hegin- bottom Free Library	22nd April, 1893
Heginbottom Technical School and Free Library formally opened by the Mayor (Alderman Ely Andrew) and Alderman Thos. Heginbottom, 1st July, 1893	
Books removed from Town Hall to new Building, December, 1893	
News Room opened	1st January, 1894
Issue of books re-commenced	19th March, 1894
Juvenile Department opened.....	14th May, 1896
Library closed for alterations preparatory to the adop- tion of the Open Access System.....	31st July, 1906
Library opened on the Open Access System, 1st November, 1906	

Donors of Books, Pamphlets, &c.

Year Ending 17th March, 1911.

v volumes. *r*. reports. *p*. pamphlets.

Agent General for Australia.....	1	<i>v</i>
Ashton, Stalybridge, and Dukinfield Blind Society.....	1	<i>r</i>
Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary	1	<i>r</i>
Bamforth, Mrs.	2	<i>v</i>
Board of Trade	4	<i>r</i>
Briscoe, J. Potter Esq. F.R.S.L.	12	<i>p</i>
British Museum Trustees	4	<i>v</i> 2 <i>p</i>
Calcutta, Imperial Library	1	<i>v</i>
Cambrian Railway Co.	6	<i>p</i>
Co-operative Wholesale Societies, Ltd.....	2	<i>v</i>
Combridge, A. J. Co. (Bombay)	1	<i>v</i>
Commissioner of Education, U.S.A.	2	<i>r</i>
Comptroller of Patents	73	<i>v</i>
Cotterill, C. C. Esq.....	1	<i>v</i>
"Daily News" (The Publishers of)	1	<i>v</i>
Director of Experimental Farms in Canada	11	<i>r</i>
Durham University	1	<i>v</i>
Fryer, Alfred C. Esq.	1	<i>v</i>
Gerrard, John, Esq.....	1	<i>r</i>
Great Western Railway Co. ..	12	<i>v</i>
Guppy, Henry Esq., M.A.	4	<i>p</i>
Hazelhurst John Esq.....	1	<i>v</i>
High Commisioner for New Zealand	1	<i>v</i>
Hill, Mrs. S. ..	1	<i>v</i>

Home Teaching Society for the Blind	1 r
Incorporated Society of Musicians	1 r
International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners	1 r
Lancashire and Cheshire Union of Institutes	1 r
Larne Corporation	1 v
Lawrence, Sir Edwin Durning- Bart.....	3 v
Layton, Messrs. C. & E.....	2 p
London University Correspondence College	1 v
Longmans, Green & Co., Messrs.....	1 v
Macmillan & Co., ,,	1 v
Mather & Crowther, Messrs.	1 v
Medical Officer of Health for the County	1 r
National Union of Teachers	1 r
Neal, John, Esq.	4 v
Paton, Messrs. J. & J.....	2 v
Queenstown Corporation	1 v
Roberts, Robert Esq.	1 v
Royal Agricultural Society	1 v
Royal Insurance Co., Ltd.	1 v
St. Louis Public Library	12 p
Salvation Army.....	1 v
Sealy, Bryers & Walter, Messrs.....	1 p
Smithsonian Institution, U.S.A.	2 v
Society of Accountants and Auditors	1 v
Steel, Richard Esq.	1 v
Sutton, Chas. W., Esq., M.A.	1 v
Town and County Directories, Ltd.....	1 v

Annual Reports from the following Libraries:—Aberdeen, Accrington, Altrincham, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Aston Manor, Barnsley, Barrow-in-Furness, Barry, Batley, Battersea, Belfast, Birmingham, Bishopgate Foundation Institute, Blackburn, Bolton, Bootle, Bournemouth, Bradford, Bridgwater, Brighton, Bristol, Bury, Buxton, Calcutta, Cambridge, Cambridge University, Cardiff, Cheltenham, Chicago (U.S.A.), Chorley, Christchurch (N.Z.), Cirencester, Clitheroe, Cork, Cripplegate Foundation Institute, Croydon, Derby, Detroit (U.S.A.), Dewsbury, Dukinfield, Dumbarton, Dundee, Dunedin, Ealing, East London (S.A.), Eccles, Erith, Evesham, Gateshead, Gloucester, Govan, Great Yarmouth, Hammer-smith, Harlesden, Haslingden, Hereford, Hindley, Holyhead, Hornsey, Hove, Huddersfield, Hyde, Ipswich, Keighley, Kensal Rise, Kendal, Kettering, Kidderminster, Kimberley (S.A.), Kingston-upon-Thames, Knutsford, Leeds, Leicester, Leigh, Leyton, Lincoln, Loughborough, Manchester, Middlesbrough, Nelson, New Orleans (U.S.A.), New South Wales, New York (U.S.A.), Newark-on-Trent, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Nottingham, Oldbury, Oldham, Paisley, Penarth, Perth, Poole, Portsmouth, Preston, Providence (U.S.A.), Rawtenstall, Redruth, Rochdale, Rochester, Rothwell, Rugby, Runcorn, St. Annes-on-the-Sea, St. Bride Foundation Institute, St. Helens, St. Louis (U.S.A.), Salford, Salisbury, Scranton (U.S.A.), Shoreditch, Smethwick, South Australia, South Shields, Sowerby Bridge, Stirling's and Glasgow, Stockport, Stoke Newington, Toronto (Canada), Tottenham, Tynemouth, Walthamstow, Wandsworth, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, Watford, West Bromwich, West Hartlepool, Westminster, Whitehaven, Widnes, Wigan, Willesden Green, Worcester (U.S.A.), Workington, and York.

News and Magazine Rooms.

Chapman, Samuel, Esq. "Engineering."
Co-operative Society, Working Men's "Co-operative News" and
"Millgate Monthly."
Hurst, Joseph, Esq. "Methodist Times."
Local Branch Independent Labour
Party "Labour Leader."
Pownall, The late, Alderman "National Church."
Also the Newspapers, &c. marked with an asterisk in the
following list, which are presented by the Publishers.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, PERIODICALS
AND REVIEWS, SUPPLIED TO THE NEWS
AND READING ROOMS.

DAILY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Evening Reporter, 2 copies	London Times
Birmingham Daily Post	Manchester Courier, 2 copies
Daily Graphic	Manchester Evening Chronicle, 2 copies
Daily Mail	Manchester Evening News, 2 copies
Daily News	Manchester Guardian, 2 copies
Freeman's Journal	Pall Mall Gazette
Glasgow Herald	Westminster Gazette
Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury	Yorkshire Daily Observer
Lloyd's List	Yorkshire Post
London Daily Telegraph	

WEEKLY.

Architects and Builders' Journal	Engineer
Ashton-under-Lyne Herald,	English Mechanic
4 copies	Era
Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter,	Exchange and Mart (Mon. Wed. and Fri.)
4 copies	Field
Athenæum	Fishing Gazette
* Bible Advocate	Gardener
* Board of Trade Journal	Gardeners' Chronicle
Bookseller	Graphic
Boy's Own Paper	Illustrated London News
British Congregationalist	Irish Catholic
British Journal of Photography	Iron and Coal Trades' Review
British Weekly	* Journal of the Society of Arts
* Canada	Labour News
* Canadian Gazette	London Guardian
* Catholic Times	Manchester City News
Christian World	Municipal Journal
* Civil Service Aspirant	Manchester Weekly Times
* Civil Service Candidate	* Motor
Clarion	* Motor Boat
* Commercial Motor	* Motor Cycling
* Contractors' Record	* Motor Traction
Cotton Factory Times	Nation
Country Life	Nature
County Gentleman and Land and Water	North Cheshire Herald
* Cycling.	Oldham Chronicle
* Drapers' Record	* Patent Office Journal
* Electrical Engineer	* Phonetic Journal
Electrical Review	Publishers' Circular
	Punch, 2 copies

Railway Review
 Saturday Review
 Schoolmaster
 Schoolmistress
 Sketch
 Spectator
 Sphere

* Standard of Empire
 T. P's. Weekly
 Textile Mercury
 Truth
 * University Correspondent
 * Woodworker

MONTHLY.

* Agricultural Economist
 Antiquary
 Army List
 Badminton Magazine
 Blackwood's Magazine
 Bookman
 C. B. Fry's Magazine
 Cassell's Family Magazine
 Cassier's Magazine
 Century Magazine
 Chamber's Journal
 * Church of England League
 Gazette
 Contemporary Review
 Cornhill Magazine
 * Educational Times
 Englishwoman
 Esperantist
 * Foresters' Miscellany
 Fortnightly Review
 * Great Western Railway
 Magazine
 Harper's Monthly
 * Herald of Peace
 * Highway

Hora Jucunda (Magazine for
 the Blind)
 * Independent Methodist
 * Insurance Agent and the
 Insurance Review
 * Journal of the Clerk of
 Works' Association
 Knowledge
 Lectures Pour Tous (French
 Magazine)
 Liberator
 * Liberty Review
 McClure's Magazine
 * Machinery Market
 * Musical Herald
 Musical Opinion
 Musical Times
 National Home-Reading Union
 Magazines
 Naturalist
 * New Church Magazine
 Nineteenth Century
 Outing Magazine
 Pall Mall Magazine

Pearson's Magazine	Strand Magazine
Photographic Monthly	Studio
* Positivist Review	* Sunday Advocate and National
Progress (Magazine for the Blind)	Sunday League Record
* Queensland Mining Journal	Textile Manufacturer
Quiver	* Traveller's Gazette
Review of Reviews	* Vaccination Inquirer
Royal Magazine	* Vegetarian Messenger
Scottish Field	Westminster Review
Scribner's Magazine	Windsor Magazine
* State Correspondent	* Zoophilist

BI-MONTHLY.

The British Printer.

QUARTERLY.

Edinburgh Review	Post Office Guide
Hibbert Journal	Quarterly Review
Navy List	

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

Bradshaw's Guide	* Lancashire and Yorkshire
* Caledonian	* London and North Western
* Cambrian Railway	* London and South Western
* Furness	* London, Brighton, and South Coast
* Great Central	* London, Chatham, and Dover
* Great Eastern	* Midland
* Great Northern	* South Eastern
* Great Western	

DIRECTORIES.

Gore's Liverpool Directory
Kelly's Directory of Birmingham
Kelly's Directory of Cheshire
Kelly's Directory of Lancashire
Kelly's Directory of Manchester, Salford, and Suburban
Kelly's Post Office London Directory
Kelly's Textile Directory
Kelly's West Riding of Yorkshire
* Macdonald's Directory
* Practical Advertising
Sell's World's Press
* Stubbs' Directory

FILES OF NEWSPAPERS.

The "Times"	from 1881 to 1905.
The "Manchester Guardian"	„ 1883 to 1908.
The "Manchester Courier"	„ 1887 „
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter"	„ 1860 to date.
The "Stalybridge Herald"	for 1888.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Herald"	from 1889 to date.
The "Ashton Chronicle"	1848-49.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Standard,"	1860-66, 1870-83.
	and 1885.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne News"	from 1868-73.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION.

PUBLIC FREE LIBRARY.

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LIBRARIAN,

FOR THE

Year ending March 16th, 1912.

Committee and Officers, 1911-1912.

CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR HEAP.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN :

REV. F. R. C. HUTTON, M.A.

THE MAYOR.

ALDERMEN KENWORTHY AND PEARSON.

COUNCILLORS F. HAMER, HULME AND POLLITT.

HONORARY MEMBERS :

REV. J. M. CRAVEN, REV. B. HICKEY,

REV. T. W. PUGHE-MORGAN,

MESSRS. SAMUEL BAGULEY, T. E. CRYER

AND WALTER SCHOLES.

SUB-COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR HEAP.

REV. F. R. C. HUTTON, M.A.

THE MAYOR.

ALDERMEN KENWORTHY AND PEARSON.

COUNCILLOR POLLITT.

REV. J. M. CRAVEN AND REV. B. HICKEY.

LIBRARIAN :

GEO. FLETCHER.

SUB-LIBRARIAN :

R. F. MORRIS.

ASSISTANTS :

WILLIAM McNAMEE AND ARTHUR SUTTON.

CARETAKER :

JOHN HOLLINGWORTH.

REPORT

OF THE LIBRARIAN OF THE

Public Free Library,

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.



To the Chairman and Members of the Free Library Committee.

GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to submit the 18th Annual Report on the work of the Library for the year ending 16th March, 1912.

For the first time since the adoption of the Open Access System, I have to report a decrease in the number of books issued from the Lending Department. The issues during the year numbered 75,060, and, compared with 81,394 the issues for the year 1910-11, it will be seen that there has been a decrease of 6,334.

It is difficult to account for this decrease, but it is not of merely local significance. Many public libraries throughout the country are chronicling similar decreases, and various reasons are being put forward in explanation. The principal ones appear to be the exceptional fine summer of last year, and the natural rise and fall of interest in public libraries, the latter no doubt due to some extent to such subsidiary causes as the large number of places catering for the amusement of people, the facilities by which popular as well as standard literature may be obtained

cheaply, and the insistent and increasing claims of the modern newspaper for attention. All these causes may have resulted in a lessened interest in public libraries, but, whatever the cause in our case, it is a singular fact that the number of our borrowers tends to increase rather than decrease, and one is therefore forced to conclude that although a larger number of persons are using the library, they do not exchange their books as frequently as borrowers in previous years have done.

During the year the Library was open on 292 days, and 90,205 books were issued for home reading and reference purposes, giving a daily average of 309 as compared with 326 for 1910-11. But as Tuesday (3 hours) and Saturday (8 hours) are counted as one day the daily averages become 371 and 391 respectively. As stated above, the number of books issued from the Lending Department was 75,060, and the number issued from the Reference Department was 15,145, an increase of 806 upon last year's figures.

The following summary may be useful for the purpose of comparing the work of the Library during the last few years. The figures of the first column are those of the last complete year of work under the indicator system.

	1905-6	1910-11	1911-12
Lending Department Issues ..	50,037 ..	81,394 ..	75,060
Lending and Reference Department Issues	74,907 ..	95,733 ..	90,205
Average Daily Issues (Lending Department)	208 ..	332 ..	309
Fiction Percentage	61 ..	54 ..	55
Number of Borrowers	2,554 ..	3,898 ..	4,069

The total number of books now in the Library is 20,409. The additions during the year number 844, and of these 679 have been purchased, 165 received as donations, and six acquired by subscription to various learned societies. Four hundred and six volumes have been replaced, and 275 rebound during the year. The number of books permanently withdrawn from the Library during the year is 1,685, the bulk of these being obsolete and other works from the Reference Department.

The number of borrowers' tickets in force is 4,069 as compared with 3,898 in March, 1911. Of these, 2,992 are ordinary tickets; 461 the extra tickets used for non-fictional works only; 604 are juvenile readers' tickets, and the special reference tickets number 12.

The number of borrowers from each of the districts served by the Library is as follows :—

Ashton-under-Lyne ..	3014	with	3377	tickets.
Hurst	360	do.	408	do.
Waterloo.....	223	do.	262	do.
Other districts	11	do.	22	do.

The local authorities of Hurst and Waterloo have again contributed their annual subscriptions of £50 and £25 respectively, and, as will be seen from the preceding paragraph, a large number of residents in these districts appreciate the advantages of the Library. The Military Authorities at the Barracks have again paid their annual subscription of £5, and sixteen half-yearly subscriptions have been received from persons resident outside the Library area.

The arrangement entered into between the Committee and Smiths' Subscription Library, is very popular, and judging from the use made of this section by the borrowers it might be advisable for the Committee to increase its subscription and thus be enabled to command a larger number of books. The present arrangements are that for an annual subscription of £14 we have the use of forty volumes interchangeable at any time.

The arrangements made by the Ashton-under-Lyne and District Blind Society for the provision of books for the blind readers of the district continue to be very satisfactory. For the benefit of new members of the Committee I may say that this Committee and the Library Committees of Stalybridge and Dukinfield subscribe annually the sums of £3 3s. 0d., £2 2s. 0d., and £1 1s. 0d. respectively to the Blind Society, which in turn subscribes to the National Lending Library for the Blind. This latter Society supplies in return for the subscription a certain number of books on loan monthly, the local Society through its officer seeing to the distribution, etc., of the volumes. By these means the needs of the blind readers in the whole of the district are catered for admirably, and each local authority bears its share of the expense. This Committee also provides two monthly magazines, printed in Braille type, the circulation of which is also undertaken by the Blind Society.

The work of the Books Sub-Committee during the year has been done as carefully as in the past, and an endeavour has been made to ensure, as far as practicable, that all legitimate phases of modern thought are represented in the Library.

A special display of books on out-door life, sports, gardening, agriculture, etc., was again made last spring and summer and was instrumental in drawing attention to the resources of the Library in these subjects.

The display of holiday literature was also made last summer. Copies of the various guide books, leaflets, etc., to holiday resorts and districts were supplied by the railway and steamship companies; town guides, photographs, etc., were also obtained and the collection was displayed on tables in the entrance hall of the Library. The local press kindly drew attention to the display, and, judging from the number of persons observed round the tables, the innovation was highly appreciated.

The monthly lists of additions continue to be published in both local papers and the reprints supplied under arrangement with the proprietors of the *Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter* are distributed gratis to the borrowers. To the Editor of the *Ashton-under-Lyne Herald* our thanks are tendered for his kindness in publishing the lists gratuitously in the columns of that paper.

In the last Annual Report attention was drawn to the use of the Library by certain classes of juvenile borrowers. A suggestion was then made that, failing the establishment of School Libraries, the Head Teachers of the Elementary Schools in the Library area might be willing to sign the forms of those of their scholars who, in their opinion, would benefit by being allowed to use the Library. Provided, of course, that such signature did not carry with it any responsibility for breaches of the rules. The Committee decided to ask for the Head Teachers' co-operation in this matter,

and, without exception, the consent of each one was obtained. Each would-be juvenile borrower has now to obtain the signature of his or her Head Teacher, in addition to the usual guarantee, before he can use the Library, and the method is more satisfactory than the one previously in operation.

A matter which might receive the consideration of this Committee is the provision of Delivery Stations or Distributing Branches. There are many persons living on the outskirts of the town, particularly in the Cockbrook and Guidebridge areas, who would welcome the opportunity of having books from the Public Library without the trouble of a long walk or a car journey. By means of Delivery Stations the Library would be brought more in touch with the residents of these districts, and many who now never think of taking advantage of its resources would probably do so if a small but representative selection of books was to be found in close proximity to their homes.

Changes have again taken place in the staff of the Library. A. R. Richardson, Junior Assistant, resigned last September, and his place has been filled by Arthur Sutton. Mr. Chas. Nowell, who came to us from the Kendal Public Library last April has, since the period covered by this Report, been appointed Cataloguing Assistant in the Coventry Public Libraries, and the position he held here, that of Senior Assistant, has been filled by the appointment of Mr. Wm. Mc.Namee, of the Birkenhead Public Libraries.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. FLETCHER.

Number of Volumes in Stock on March 16th, 1912.

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

Sciences	999
Useful Arts	674
Fine and Recreative Arts.....	632
Social and Political Science.....	638
Philosophy and Religion	714
History and Geography.....	2801
Biography and Correspondence	1436
Language and Literature	518
Poetry and Drama	810
Prose Fiction	3158
Juvenile Literature.....	1251
Miscellaneous	746

14377

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT	5431
Books for the Blind	601

TOTAL..... 20409

Lending Department,

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1911. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts.	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspondence.	Language and Literature	Poetry and Drama.	Prose Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	* Daily Average.
March 18th to															
31st.....	124	141	77	68	35	248	60	23	50	2104	814	56	3800	12	380
April	237	262	167	139	91	336	115	46	63	3542	1322	103	6423	22	357
May	216	242	145	114	104	369	113	47	58	3481	1166	81	6136	27	279
June	193	172	136	90	71	306	87	50	55	3084	1008	77	5329	22	296
July	175	173	140	100	71	328	97	41	56	3168	1057	64	5470	26	249
August															
1st to 17th, &															
28th to 31st...	98	117	116	76	48	230	73	28	47	2137	823	59	3852	17	296
September...	196	192	144	116	74	338	94	30	61	3351	981	82	5659	26	257
October	199	222	178	145	104	331	95	34	70	3537	1311	104	6330	26	302
November...	152	231	151	149	107	409	98	61	118	3863	2432	137	7908	26	359
December ...	149	185	162	130	74	395	103	56	73	3384	1731	72	6514	24	310
1912.															
January.....	195	210	169	118	81	450	122	60	92	3835	1597	107	7036	25	335
February ...	196	225	157	131	87	444	137	60	88	3583	1456	133	6697	25	318
March															
1st to 16th ...	101	114	107	86	43	237	60	47	70	2149	820	72	3903	14	326
Totals 1911-12.	2231	2486	1849	1462	990	4421	1254	583	901	41218	16518	1147	75060	292	309
Totals 1910-11.	2510	2542	1841	1498	900	4932	1555	921	839	44173	18469	1214	81394	294	332

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

Reference Department.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1911. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts.	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspond- ence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama	Miscell- aneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average. *
March													
18th to 31st...	7	9	335	6	3	16	5	1	7	214	603	12	60
April	6	14	610	6	5	7	7	4	8	405	1072	22	60
May	19	26	743	14	16	27	15	12	6	499	1377	27	63
June	10	10	604	11	12	18	3	7	2	409	1086	22	60
July	7	12	715	3	3	43	4	11	8	475	1281	26	58
August													
1st to 17th, & 28th to 31st ...	7	10	461	10	15	41	7	6	22	312	891	17	69
September...	36	23	715	27	41	88	42	28	29	481	1510	26	69
October	29	12	717	26	12	57	24	15	25	487	1404	26	67
November	26	18	720	28	16	46	40	13	20	484	1411	26	64
December ... 1912.	15	14	653	10	21	33	15	12	16	445	1239	24	59
January	20	11	688	14	19	24	18	12	10	467	1283	25	61
February ...	15	12	690	13	13	32	11	12	13	466	1277	25	61
March													
1st to 16th ...	9	7	385	7	7	14	8	9	7	258	711	14	59
Totals 1911-12.	206	178	8041	175	183	446	199	142	173	5462	15145	292	62
Totals 1910-11.	278	149	7961	136	168	228	125	87	82	5125	14339	294	59

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

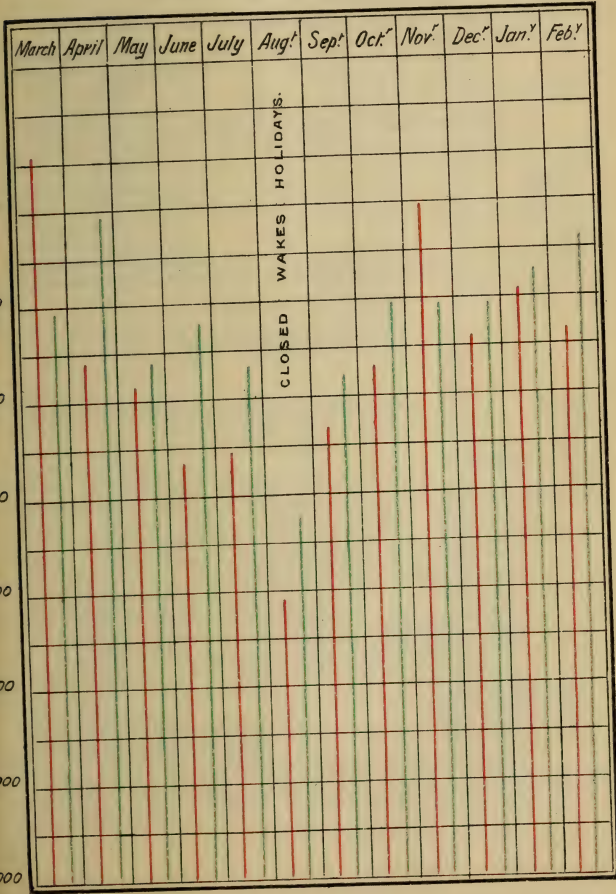
Lending and Reference Departments Combined.

1911. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts	Fine and Recreative Arts	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspond- ence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average. *
March 18th to 31st.....	131	150	412	74	38	264	65	24	57	2104	814	270	4403	12	440
April	243	276	777	145	96	343	122	50	71	3542	1322	505	7495	22	416
May	235	268	888	128	120	396	128	59	64	3481	1166	580	7513	27	342
June	203	182	740	101	83	324	90	57	57	3084	1008	486	6415	22	356
July	182	185	855	103	74	371	101	52	64	3168	1057	539	6751	26	307
August 1st to 17th, & 28th to 31st...	105	127	577	86	63	271	80	34	69	2137	823	371	4743	17	365
September...	232	215	859	143	115	426	136	58	90	3351	981	563	7169	26	326
October	228	234	895	171	116	388	119	49	95	3537	1311	591	7734	26	368
November...	178	249	871	177	123	455	138	74	138	3863	2432	621	9319	26	424
December ... 1912.	164	199	820	140	95	428	118	68	89	3384	1731	517	7753	24	369
January	215	221	857	132	100	474	140	72	102	3835	1597	574	8319	25	396
February ... March	211	237	847	144	100	476	148	72	101	3583	1456	599	7974	25	380
1st to 16th ...	110	121	492	93	50	251	68	56	77	2149	820	330	4617	14	385
Totals 1911-12.	2437	2664	9890	1637	1173	4867	1453	725	1074	41218	16518	6549	90205	292	371
Totals 1910-11.	2788	2691	9802	1634	1068	5160	1680	1008	921	44173	18469	6339	95733	294	391

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday eight hours, counted as one day.

Diagram showing Monthly Issue in the Lending Department during the Last two years.

Red Line Issue for year 1911-12.
 Green Line " " " 1910-11.



General Summary.

LENDING AND REFERENCE DEPARTMENTS.

Volumes presented	165
Volumes purchased:—	
Additions	679
Replacements	406
Volumes of Societies' Publications obtained by	
Subscription	6
Volumes bound	275
Volumes in Stock	20409
Total number of Issues	90205
Average Daily Issue	371
Tickets in force	4069
Overdue books written for	2209
Volumes returned from Infected Houses and Destroyed	Nil

General Data.

Population (Census 1911) Ashton-under-Lyne	45179
Do. do. Hurst	7858
Do. do. Waterloo	3966
Rateable Value	£197,631 2s. 0d.
Public Libraries' Act adopted	1880
News Room (Town Hall) opened	1st August, 1881
Library (Town Hall) opened by the Mayoress	
(Mrs. Ely Andrew)	25th March, 1882
Library (Town Hall) closed preparatory to the re-	
cataloguing and removing of books to the Hegin-	
bottom Free Library	22nd April, 1893
Heginbottom Technical School and Free Library	
formally opened by the Mayor (Alderman Ely	
Andrew) and Alderman Thos. Heginbottom, 1st July, 1893	
Books removed from Town Hall to new Building,	
December, 1893	
News Room opened	1st January, 1894
Issue of books re-commenced	19th March, 1894
Juvenile Department opened	14th May, 1896
Library closed for alterations preparatory to the adop-	
tion of the Open Access System	31st July, 1906
Library opened on the Open Access System, 1st November, 1906	

Donors of Books, Pamphlets, &c.

Year Ending 16th March, 1912.

v volumes. *r*. reports. *p*. pamphlets.

Agent General for Australia.....	1 <i>v</i> 3 <i>p</i>
Ashton, Stalybridge, and Dukinfield Blind Society	1 <i>r</i>
Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary	1 <i>r</i>
Bamforth, Mrs.	1 <i>v</i>
Birchall, Oswald, Esq.	1 <i>p</i>
Board of Trade	4 <i>r</i>
Briscoe, J. Potter, Esq. F.R.S.L.....	12 <i>p</i>
British Museum Trustees	8 <i>v</i>
Cambray, Philip G., Esq.	1 <i>v</i>
Chicago Public Library	12 <i>p</i>
Cook & Son, Thomas ..	1 <i>v</i>
Co-operative Wholesale Societies, Ltd.....	4 <i>v</i>
Commissioner of Education, U.S.A.	2 <i>r</i>
Comptroller of Patents	78 <i>v</i>
Covenant Publishing Co.	1 <i>v</i>
Cronshaw, J. H., Esq.	2 <i>v</i>
Director of Experimental Farms in Canada	5 <i>r</i>
Fifield, Arthur C., Esq.	1 <i>v</i>
Fletcher, Geo., Esq.	1 <i>p</i>

Forlong, Mrs.	3	v
Gerrard, John, Esq.....	1	r
Guppy, Henry, Esq., M.A.....	1	v 2 p
High Commisioner for New Zealand	2	v
Hill, Mrs. S. ..	1	v
Howorth, Daniel F., Esq.	57	v 16 p
Incorporated Society of Musicians	1	r
International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners	2	r
Lancashire and Cheshire Union of Institutes	1	r
Layton, Messrs. C. & E.....	2	v
Lombard, Mons. Louis	1	v
London University Correspondence College	1	v
Longmans, Green & Co., Messrs.....	1	v
Macmillan & Co., Messrs.	1	v
Mason, Miss Bertha.....	1	v
Mather & Crowther, Messrs.	1	v
Mayhew, Mrs. (A-u-L) ..	1	v
Medical Officer of Health for the County	1	r
National Union of Teachers ..	1	r
Neal, John, Esq.	4	v
Paton, Messrs. J. & J.....	2	v
Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor of London	1	r
Royal Agricultural Society ...	1	v
Royal Insurance Co., Ltd.	1	v
St. Louis Public Library	12	p
Smithsonian Institution, U.S.A.	2	v
Society of Accountants and Auditors	1	v
Sutton, Chas. W., Esq., M.A. ...	1	v
Swedenborg Society.....	1	r
Testimony Publishing Co. (Chicago)	5	v
Wade, D. H. Esq.	1	r
Waterhouse, Chas. H., Esq.	1	v

Annual Reports from the following Libraries:—Aberdeen, Accrington, Altrincham, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Aston Manor, Barnsley, Barrow-in-Furness, Barry, Battersea, Belfast, Beverley, Birmingham, Bishopsgate Foundation Institute, Blackburn, Bolton, Bootle, Bournemouth, Bradford, Bridgewater, Brierley Hill, Bristol, Bury, Buxton, Cambridge, Cardiff, Cheltenham, Chicago (U.S.A.), Chorley, Christchurch (N.Z.), Cirencester, Clitheroe, Colchester, Cork, Cripplegate Foundation Institute, Croydon, Derby, Detroit (U.S.A.), Dewsbury, Doncaster, Dukinfield, Dundee, Ealing, East London (S.A.), Eccles, Enoch Pratt Library Baltimore (U.S.A.), Evesham, Folkestone, Gateshead, Gloucester, Govan, Grays Thurrock, Great Yarmouth, Hackney, Hammer-smith, Hartlepool, Haslingden, Hindley, Hornsey, Hove, Huddersfield, Hyde, Ilkley, Ipswich, Keighley, Kensal Rise, Kettering, Kidderminster, Kilburn, Kimberley (S.A.), Kingston-upon-Thames, Knutsford, Leeds, Leicester, Leigh, Lincoln, Loughborough, Malvern, Middlesbrough, Montrose, Nelson, New York (U.S.A.), Newark-upon-Trent, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Norwich, Nottingham, Oldbury, Oldham, Paisley, Penarth, Perth, Portland (U.S.A.), Portsmouth, Preston, Providence (U.S.A.), Rawtenstall, Redruth, Richmond, Rochester, Rochester (U.S.A.), Rothwell, Runcorn, St. Annes-on-the-Sea, St. Helens, St. Louis (U.S.A.), Salem (U.S.A.), Salisbury, Scranton (U.S.A.), Shoreditch, Smethwick, South Australia, South Shields, Sowerby Bridge, Stafford, Stoke Newington, Taunton, Todmorden, Toronto (Canada), Tottenham, Twickenham, Walford, Walthamstow, Wandsworth, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, West Bromwich, West Hartlepool, Westminster, Whitehaven, Widnes, Windsor (Canada), Willesden (U.S.A.), Willesden Green, Wimbledon, Wolverhampton, Worcester, Worcester (U.S.A.), Workington, and York.

News and Magazine Rooms.

Chapman, Samuel, Esq.	"Engineering."
Co-operative Society, Working Men's	"Co-operative News" and "Millgate Monthly."
Hurst, Joseph, Esq.	"Methodist Times."
Local Branch Workers' Educational Association	"The Highway."
New Church Society	"New Church Magazine."

Also the Newspapers, &c. marked with an asterisk in the following list, which are presented by the Publishers.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, PERIODICALS
AND REVIEWS, SUPPLIED TO THE NEWS
AND READING ROOMS.

DAILY.

Ashton-under-Lyne Evening	London Times
Reporter, 2 copies	Manchester Courier, 2 copies
Birmingham Daily Post	Manchester Evening Chronicle,
Daily Graphic	2 copies
Daily Mail	Manchester Evening News, 2
Daily News and Leader	copies
Freeman's Journal	Manchester Guardian, 2 copies
Glasgow Herald	Pall Mall Gazette
Liverpool Daily Post and	Westminster Gazette
Mercury	Yorkshire Daily Observer
Lloyd's List	Yorkshire Post
London Daily Telegraph	

WEEKLY.

American Machinist	Electrical Review
Architects and Builders' Journal	Engineer
Army and Navy Gazette	English Mechanic
Ashton-under-Lyne Herald, 1 copies	Era
Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter, 4 copies	Exchange and Mart (Mon. Wed. and Fri.)
* Aspirant	Field
Athenæum	Fishing Gazette
* Bible Advocate	Gardener
* Board of Trade Journal	Gardeners' Chronicle
Bookseller	Graphic
Boy's Own Paper	Illustrated London News
British Congregationalist	Irish Catholic
British Journal of Photography	Iron and Coal Trades' Review
British Weekly	* Journal of the Society of Arts
* Canadian Gazette	Labour News
* Catholic Times	London Guardian
Christian World	Manchester City News
* Civil Service Candidate	Municipal Journal
Clarion	Manchester Weekly Times
* Commercial Motor	* Motor
* Contractors' Record	* Motor Boat
Cotton Factory Times	* Motor Cycling
Country Life	* Motor Traction
County Gentleman and Land and Water	Nation
* Cycling.	Nature
* Drapers' Record	North Cheshire Herald
Electrical Engineering	Oldham Chronicle
	* Patent Office Journal
	* Phonetic Journal
	Publishers' Circular

Punch, 2 copies
 Railway Review
 Saturday Review
 Saturday Westminster
 Schoolmaster
 Schoolmistress
 Sketch
 Spectator

Sphere
 * Standard of Empire
 T. P's. Weekly
 Textile Mercury
 Truth
 * University Correspondent
 * Woodworker

MONTHLY.

* Agricultural Economist
 Antiquary
 Army List
 Badminton Magazine
 Blackwood's Magazine
 Bookman
 C. B. Fry's Magazine
 Cassier's Magazine
 Century Magazine
 Chamber's Journal
 * Church of England League
 Gazette
 Contemporary Review
 Cornhill Magazine
 * Educational Times
 Englishwoman
 Esperantist
 * Foresters' Miscellany
 Fortnightly Review
 * Great Western Railway
 Magazine
 Harper's Monthly

Hora Jucunda (Magazine for
 the Blind)
 * Insurance Agent and the
 Insurance Review
 * Journal of the Clerk of
 Works' Association
 Knowledge
 Lectures Pour Tous (French
 Magazine)
 McClure's Magazine
 * Machinery Market
 * Musical Herald
 Musical Opinion
 Musical Times
 National Home-Reading Union
 Magazines
 Naturalist
 Nineteenth Century
 Outing Magazine
 Pall Mall Magazine
 Pearson's Magazine
 * Positivist Review

Progress (Magazine for the Blind)	*Sunday Advocate and National Sunday League Record
* Queensland Mining Journal	Textile Manufacturer
Quiver	* Traveller's Gazette
Review of Reviews	* Vaccination Inquirer
Scottish Field	* Vegetarian Messenger
Scribner's Magazine	Westminster Review
* State Correspondent	Windsor Magazine
Strand Magazine	* Zoophilist
Studio	

BI-MONTHLY.

The British Printer.

QUARTERLY.

Edinburgh Review	Post Office Guide
Hibbert Journal	Quarterly Review
Navy List	

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

Bradshaw's Guide	* Lancashire and Yorkshire
* Caledonian	* London and North Western
* Cambrian	* London and South Western
* Furness	* London, Brighton, and South Coast
* Great Central	* London, Chatham, and Dover
* Great Eastern	* Midland
* Great Northern	* South Eastern
* Great Western	

DIRECTORIES.

Gore's Liverpool Directory

Kelly's Directory of Birmingham, Staffordshire,
Warwickshire, etc.

Kelly's Directory of Cheshire

Kelly's Directory of Lancashire

Kelly's Directory of Manchester, Salford, and Suburban

Kelly's Post Office London and Suburban Directory

Kelly's Textile Directory

Kelly's West Riding of Yorkshire

* Practical Advertising

Sell's World's Press

* Stubbs' Directory

* The Advertiser's A.B.C.

FILES OF NEWSPAPERS.

The "Times"	from 1881 to 1905.
The "Manchester Guardian"	,, 1883 to 1908.
The "Manchester Courier"	,, 1887 ,,
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter"	,, 1860 to date.
The "Stalybridge Herald"	for 1888.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Herald"	from 1889 to date.
The "Ashton Chronicle"	1848-49.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Standard,"	1860-66, 1870-83. and 1885.
The "Ashton-under-Lyne News"	from 1868-73.
The Ashton-under-Lyne "Weekly Sentinel,"	1911 to date.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION.

PUBLIC FREE LIBRARY

NINETEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LIBRARIAN,

FOR THE

Year ending March 17th, 1913.

Committee and Officers, 1912-1913.

CHAIRMAN :
COUNCILLOR HEAP.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN :
COUNCILLOR HULME.

THE MAYOR.

ALDERMEN KENWORTHY AND PEARSON.
COUNCILLORS CRYER, F. HAMER, MORISON AND
POLLITT.

HONORARY MEMBERS :
REV. J. M. CRAVEN, REV. B. HICKEY,
REV. F. R. C. HUTTON, M.A.,
REV. T. W. PUGHE-MORGAN,
MESSRS. SAMUEL BAGULEY, AND MARTIN V. KEOGH.

SUB-COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN :
COUNCILLOR HEAP.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN :
COUNCILLOR HULME.

THE MAYOR.

ALDERMAN PEARSON.
COUNCILLORS MORISON AND POLLITT.
REV. J. M. CRAVEN, REV. B. HICKEY,
AND REV. F. R. C. HUTTON, M.A.

LIBRARIAN :
GEO. FLETCHER.

SUB-LIBRARIAN :
R. F. MORRIS.

ASSISTANTS :
WILLIAM McNAMEE AND ARTHUR SUTTON.

CARETAKER :
JOHN HOLLINGWORTH.

REPORT

OF THE LIBRARIAN OF THE

Public Free Library,

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.



To the Chairman and Members of the Free Library Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the 19th annual Report on the work of the Library during the year ending 17th March, 1913.

The total number of books now in the Library **Stock.** is 20,161. The additions during the year number 650, and of these 604 have been purchased, 39 received as donations, and 7 acquired by subscription to various learned societies. The replacements number 188, and 462 volumes have been re-bound during the year. The number of books permanently withdrawn during this period is 897, these including a large number of Abridgements of Patents Specifications which have been returned to the Patent Office, their period of usefulness being at an end

The number of borrowers' tickets in force **Borrowers.** is 4,056, as compared with 4,069 at this time last year. 2,897 of these are ordinary tickets, 444 the extra tickets used only for non-fictional works, 701 are juvenile readers' tickets, and in addition there are 14 special reference tickets in force.

The number of borrowers from each of the districts served by the Library is as follows :—

Ashton-under-Lyne..	2990	with	3326	tickets.
Hurst	409	„	467	„
Waterloo	202	„	241	„
Other Districts....	11	„	22	„

The local authorities of Hurst and
Subscriptions. Waterloo continue their annual contributions of £50 and £25 respectively, and the annual subscription of £5 paid by the Military Authorities for the use of a number of books at the Barracks has again been received. Eleven half-yearly subscriptions have also been received from persons resident outside the Library area.

During the year the Library has been open on
Issues. 295 days, and 85,589 volumes have been issued for home reading and reference purposes, giving a daily average of 290. The number of books issued from the Lending Department was 70,041, as compared with 75,060 issued during the period covered by the previous report. It is to be regretted that the lessened use of the Library noted in the last annual report still continues. The majority of public libraries throughout the country are experiencing similar decreases in their issues of books for home reading, and although it is difficult to give definite reasons for such decreases, there can be no question that, as was pointed out in my last annual report, among contributory causes attention ought to be drawn to the large increase in recent years in the number of places catering solely for the amusement of

people, and the great development in the facilities for obtaining cheaply so many works of a popular and standard character. The increase in the number of subscription libraries in the town will also have had some effect upon our issues. An analysis of the issues shows however that four-fifths of the total decrease is found in the fiction section.

The issues from the Reference Department show a slight increase upon those of 1911-12, viz. : 15,548 as against 15,145.

The following is a summary of the work done in the Library during recent years. The figures of the first column are those of the last complete year of work under the indicator system :—

	1905-6	1911-12	1912-13
Lending Department Issues ..	50,037 ..	75,060 ..	70,041
Lending and Reference Department Issues	74,907 ..	90,205 ..	85,589
Average Daily Issues (Lending Department)	208 ..	309 ..	287
Fiction Percentage.....	61 ..	55 ..	53
Number of Borrowers' Tickets..	2,554 ..	4,069 ..	4,056

It is gratifying to find that the arrangement entered into between the Committee and Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son, whereby the borrowers are able to draw

Subscription Department.

upon the resources of the latter's large subscription Library is very popular and full use is made of the facilities provided.

Book Selections

The Books Sub-Committee has met regularly each month during the year, and the various lists of selections and recommendations have been carefully considered. All new additions to the Library are made available to the borrowers on the first Saturday in each month, and are on view in the Library for a few days prior to the day of issue. A list of such additions is published in each of the local papers, and reprints are supplied gratis to the borrowers. Our thanks are due to the Editor of the Ashton-under-Lyne *Herald* for his kindness in publishing the lists free of charge in the columns of his paper.

Books for the Blind

The arrangement between the Ashton-under-Lyne and District Blind Society and the Library Committees of Ashton-under-Lyne, Stalybridge and Dukinfield, continues, and is found to be a very satisfactory means of catering for the needs of the blind readers in the district.

Exhibitions.

The special display of books on out-door life, sports, gardening, agriculture, etc., was again used last spring and summer as a means of drawing attention to the large number of books in the Library dealing with these subjects.

The display of holiday literature was again made last summer and as usual proved very interesting and useful to many people. A large number of copies of the various guide books, booklets, leaflets, etc., were distributed and its success now ensures the exhibition being regarded as one of the permanent phases of the Library's activities.

Shelf Label Holders.

A much needed improvement has been effected by the provision of the new form of label holders for the book-shelves. The celluloid form previously used was not at all satisfactory and gave an appearance of untidiness to the shelves. The present form is of black japanned metal, the labels being printed in white on a dark background. This work was exceedingly well done by one of the Art Pupil Teachers, and the label with its holder has considerably improved the appearance of the bookshelves.

Local Collection

A noteworthy addition to the local collection has been made by the recent purchase of a number of local books, pamphlets, etc., gathered together by the late Mr. Jas Littlewood.

Juvenile Department.

In the last annual report attention was drawn to a change of method in this Department. Ever since the introduction of the Open Access System we have had trouble with certain classes of juvenile borrowers, e.g. children who are of uncleanly habits of person and clothes, and others who join the Library, use it for a month or so and then cancel their tickets, often after incurring a fine for detaining a book longer than the period allowed for reading. An attempt to check these abuses has been made during the last eighteen months by requiring all children who desire to use the Library and who are attending an elementary school in the Library area to obtain a special admittance form from their Head Teacher. This method has proved helpful to

some extent but the hopes of its proving a solution of the difficulty have not been quite realized.

Mention was made in the last annual report of the desirability of **Delivery Stations.** Distributing Branches in some of the out-lying parts of the Library area. The system in operation in many other towns is comparatively simple and easily worked. For a small sum weekly a shop-keeper, usually a small stationer, is willing to find accommodation for a small stock of books and to keep the necessary records of the books issued. And it is found that those borrowers living in the vicinity who have not the time or the inclination to journey to the Central Library on every occasion when they wish to change their books can usually find something to suit their requirements at the delivery station. In these days there are so many claims upon the attention of the public that it is hardly sufficient to place a stock of books in one central building and after providing the necessary means of administration, wait for the public to make full use of their privileges. Something more is needed and in our case the provision of delivery stations would, I think, be a helpful means of bringing the Library and its contents into greater prominence.

In May last the question of the hours of **Alteration of Hours.** opening and closing the Lending and Reference Departments of the Library was considered and the Committee decided that commencing on the 1st of July following, the two departments should close at 8-0 p.m., instead of 9-0 p.m., on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays; 1-0 p.m. on

Tuesdays ; and 5-0 p.m. instead of 6-0 p.m. on Saturdays. The arrangement appears to have worked satisfactorily, very little inconvenience having been caused to the public, whilst the members of the staff have benefited by the reduction of the number of hours on duty.

In concluding this report I beg to tender my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Committee for the interest they have at all times shown in the work of the Library and the welfare of the Staff. My thanks are also due to the Sub-Librarian and Assistants for the efficient help they are always willing to render in order to increase the usefulness and popularity of the institution.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. FLETCHER.

Number of Volumes in Stock on March 17th, 1913.

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

Sciences	1034
Useful Arts	713
Fine and Recreative Arts.....	671
Social and Political Science...	686
Philosophy and Religion	735
History and Geography.....	2901
Biography and Correspondence	1470
Language and Literature	529
Poetry and Drama	828
Prose Fiction	3269
Juvenile Literature.....	1285
Miscellaneous	773

14894

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT	4686
Books for the Blind	601

TOTAL..... 20161

Lending Department.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1912. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspond- ence.	Language and Literature	Poetry and Drama.	Prose Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	* Daily Average.
March 18th to 30th.....	86	108	92	70	38	203	59	25	38	1727	741	48	3235	12	324
April	180	184	171	106	67	362	124	42	56	3185	1252	78	5807	23	323
May	177	166	143	126	83	300	99	46	61	2915	1089	77	5282	25	251
June	169	177	157	102	66	339	87	46	48	2751	1018	81	5041	24	252
July	161	162	142	94	69	304	90	45	75	2856	1105	73	5176	27	235
August															
1st to 15th, & 26th to 31st...	100	101	134	85	52	188	77	34	55	2123	853	47	3849	18	257
September...	136	181	167	118	49	231	119	46	75	2816	1135	76	5149	25	245
October	133	208	150	123	64	336	132	52	75	3087	1785	74	6229	27	283
November ...	169	254	145	131	59	386	122	36	62	3594	2000	73	7031	26	319
December ...	157	216	144	104	61	330	117	77	55	3209	1854	82	6406	24	337
1913.															
January.....	202	223	150	133	75	347	148	70	67	3642	1639	114	6810	26	309
February ...	191	196	166	114	75	363	164	54	75	3321	1491	101	6311	24	316
March															
1st to 17th ...	96	122	115	71	44	255	103	31	41	1986	804	47	3715	14	309
Totals 1912-13.	1967	2298	1876	1377	802	3944	1441	604	783	37212	16766	971	70041	295	287
Totals 1911-12.	2231	2486	1849	1462	990	4421	1254	583	901	41218	16518	1147	75060	292	309

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday seven hours, counted as one day.

Reference Department.

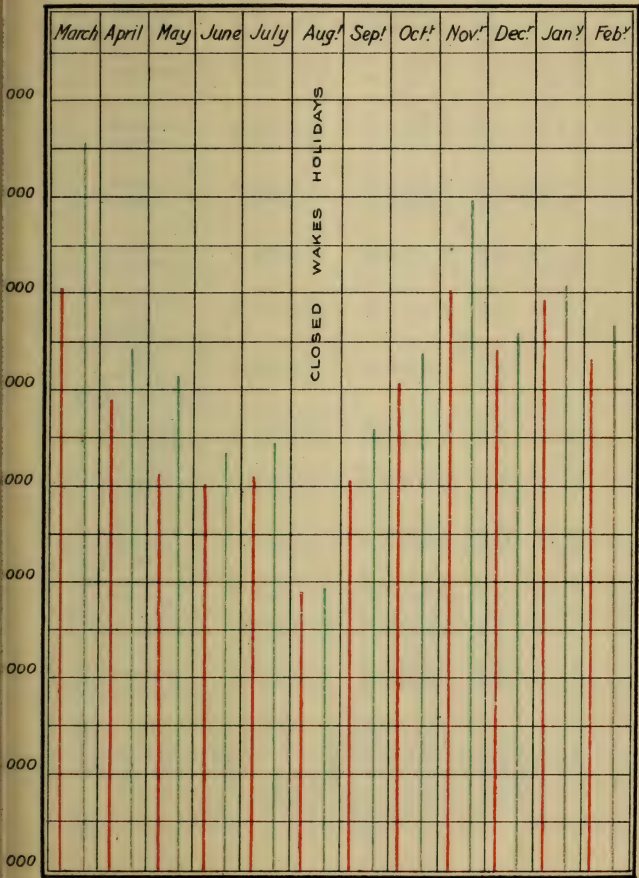
Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1912.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts.	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspondence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average.
MONTH.													
March													
18th to 30th...	6	6	330	7	5	20	7	7	8	222	618	12	62
April	12	11	634	10	13	44	12	12	12	424	1184	23	66
May	12	13	649	20	21	34	29	34	28	429	1269	25	60
June	31	23	580	19	17	30	25	19	15	518	1277	24	64
July	23	15	650	20	25	23	22	17	27	654	1476	27	62
August													
1st to 15th, & 26th to 31st ...	9	10	429	9	14	11	11	10	10	428	941	18	63
September	15	15	622	13	13	17	12	18	12	590	1327	25	63
October	14	13	648	15	16	19	15	16	18	625	1399	27	63
November ...	41	14	618	12	14	26	13	12	15	614	1379	26	63
December ...	14	13	569	14	15	15	12	26	17	573	1268	24	67
1913.													
January	14	14	626	15	16	19	20	24	19	631	1398	26	63
February ..	15	10	581	11	14	20	12	16	14	572	1265	24	63
March													
1st to 17th ..	10	7	338	9	7	14	9	7	9	337	747	14	62
Totals 1912-13.	216	164	7274	174	190	292	199	218	204	6617	15548	295	64
Totals 1911-12.	206	178	8041	175	183	446	199	142	173	5402	15145	292	62

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday seven hours, counted as one day.

Diagram showing Monthly Issue in the Lending Department during the Last two years.

Red Line Issue for year 1912-13
Green Line " " " 1911-12.



Lending and Reference Departments Combined

1912. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts	Fine and Recreative Arts	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspond- ence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average. *
March 18th to 30th	92	114	422	77	43	223	66	32	46	1727	741	270	353	12	385
April	192	195	805	116	80	406	136	54	68	3185	1252	502	691	23	388
May	189	179	792	146	104	334	128	80	89	2915	1089	506	651	25	312
June	200	200	737	121	83	369	112	65	63	2751	1018	599	6318	24	316
July	184	177	792	114	91	327	112	62	102	2856	1105	727	6652	27	302
August															
1st to 15th, & 26th to 31st..	109	111	563	94	65	199	88	44	65	2123	853	475	4790	18	319
September...	151	196	789	131	62	248	131	64	87	2816	1135	656	6476	25	308
October	157	221	798	138	80	355	147	68	93	3087	1785	699	7628	27	347
November...	210	268	763	143	73	412	135	48	77	3594	2000	687	8410	26	382
December ...	171	229	713	118	76	345	129	103	72	3209	1854	655	7674	24	404
1913.															
January	216	237	776	148	91	366	168	94	86	3642	1639	745	8208	26	373
February ...	206	206	747	125	89	383	176	70	89	3321	1491	673	7575	24	379
March															
1st to 17th ...	106	129	453	80	51	269	112	38	50	1986	804	384	4462	14	372
Totals 1912-13.	2183	2462	9150	1551	992	4236	1640	822	987	37212	16766	7588	85589	295	351
Totals 1911-12.	2437	2664	9890	1637	1173	4867	1453	725	1074	41218	16518	6549	90205	292	371

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday seven hours, counted as one day.

General Summary.

LENDING AND REFERENCE DEPARTMENTS.

Volumes presented	39
Volumes purchased :—	
Additions	650
Replacements	188
Volumes of Societies' Publications obtained by	
Subscription	7
Volumes bound	462
Volumes in Stock	20161
Total number of Issues	85589
Average Daily Issue	351
Tickets in force	4056
Overdue books written for	2059
Volumes returned from Infected Houses and Destroyed	Nil

General Data.

Population (Census 1911) Ashton-under-Lyne	45179
Do. do. Hurst	7858
Do. do. Waterloo	3966
Rateable Value	£197,312 0s. 0d.
Public Libraries' Act adopted	1880
News Room (Town Hall) opened	1st August, 1881
Library (Town Hall) opened by the Mayoress	
(Mrs. Ely Andrew)	25th March, 1882
Library (Town Hall) closed preparatory to the re-	
cataloguing and removing of books to the Hegin-	
bottom Free Library	22nd April, 1893
Heginbottom Technical School and Free Library	
formally opened by the Mayor (Alderman Ely	
Andrew) and Alderman Thos. Heginbottom, 1st July, 1893	
Books removed from Town Hall to new Building,	
December, 1893	
News Room opened	1st January, 1894
Issue of books re-commenced	19th March, 1894
Juvenile Department opened	14th May, 1896
Library closed for alterations preparatory to the adop-	
tion of the Open Access System	31st July, 1906
Library opened on the Open Access System, 1st November, 1906	

Donors of Books, Pamphlets, &c.

Year Ending 17th March, 1913.

v volumes. *r*. reports. *p*. pamphlets.

Agent General for Australia.....	1 <i>r</i>
Agent General for South Australia.....	1 <i>v</i>
Ahmath, F. N., Esq.	1 <i>v</i>
Ashton, Stalybridge, and Dukinfield Blind Society.....	1 <i>r</i>
Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary	1 <i>r</i>
Bemrose and Sons, Ltd., Messrs	1 <i>v</i>
Board of Trade	4 <i>r</i>
Briscoe, J. Potter, Esq , F.R.S.L.....	12 <i>p</i>
British Museum Trustees	8 <i>v</i>
Browne, Messrs. T. B. Ltd.....	1 <i>v</i>
Caldbeck, Major W. Roper.....	1 <i>v</i>
Cassidy, James, Esq.....	1 <i>v</i>
Chicago Public Library	12 <i>p</i>
Co-operative Wholesale Societies, Ltd.....	4 <i>v</i>
Commissioner of Education, U.S.A.	2 <i>r</i>
Comptroller of Patents	8 <i>v</i>
Director of Education (Scotland).....	1 <i>r</i>
Director of Experimental Farms in Canada	1 <i>r</i>
Dixon, George M., Esq.....	1 <i>v</i>
Evans, David, Esq.....	1 <i>v</i>
Factories, Chief Inspector of.....	1 <i>r</i>

Guppy, Henry, Esq., M.A.....	2 v
High Commisioner for New Zealand	1 v
Incorporated Society of Musicians	1 v
International Federation of Cotton Spinners	2 r
Jennings. Arthur S., Esq.....	1 v
Joint Waterworks Board.....	1 v
Layton, Messrs. C. & E.....	2 v
Leech, Family of late Sir Bosdin	2 v
London University Correspondence College	1 v
Longmans, Green & Co., Messrs.....	1 v
Lupton Bros., Ltd. Messrs.....	2 v
Macmillan & Co., Messrs.	1 v
Marshall, Percival and Co., Messrs.....	1 v
Mather & Crowther, Messrs.	1 v
Medical Officer of Health for the County	1 r
National Union of Teachers	1 r
Neal, John, Esq.	4 v
New South Wales Public Library Committee.....	1 v
Palmer, Dr. J. Foster.....	1 v
Paton, Messrs. J. & J.....	2 v
Royal Agricultural Society	1 v
St. Louis Public Library	12 p
Schooling, John H., Esq.....	1 v
Smale, Samuel R., Esq.....	6 v
Smithsonian Institution, U.S.A.	2 v
Society of Accountants and Auditors	1 v
Sutton, Chas. W., Esq., M.A.	1 v
Tariff Reform League.....	1 v
Testimony Publishing Co. (Chicago)	2 v
Town and County Directories, Ltd.....	1 v
Willett, William, Esq.....—.....	1 v
Wyatt, H. F. and L. G. H. Horton Smith, Messrs.....	1 v

Annual Reports from the following Libraries:—Aberdeen, Accrington, Altrincham, Arbroath, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Barnsley, Barrow-in-Furness, Barry, Battersea, Belfast, Birmingham, Blackburn, Bolton, Bootle, Bournemouth, Bradford, Bradford (Mechanics' Institute), Bridgwater, Brierley Hill, Brighton, Bristol, Brooklyn (U.S.A.), Burnley (Mechanics' Institute) Bury, Buxton, Cambridge, Cambridge (University Library), Cardiff, Cheltenham, Chorley, Christchurch (N.Z.), Cirencester, Clitheroe, Cork, Coventry, Cripplegate Foundation Institute, Croydon, Derby, Detroit (U.S.A.), Dewsbury, Doncaster, Dukinfield, Dundee, Durban (S.A.), East London (S.A.), Eastbourne, Eccles, Enoch Pratt Library Baltimore (U.S.A.), Erith, Evesham, Folkestone, Gateshead, Gloucester, Grays Thurrock, Great Yarmouth, Hackney, Hammersmith, Hartlepool, Hereford, Hindley, Hornsey, Hove, Huddersfield, Hyde, Ilkeston, Ilkley, Illinois (U.S.A.), Ipswich, Kendal, Kensal Rise, Kettering, Kidderminster, Kiltarn, Kingston-upon-Thames, Knutsford, Leeds, Leicester, Leigh, Leyton, Lincoln, Loughborough, Lynn (U.S.A.), Malvern, Middlesbrough, Montrose, Nelson, New Orleans (U.S.A.), New York (U.S.A.), Newark-upon-Trent, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Norwich, Nottingham, Paisley, Penarth, Perth, Plymouth, Port Elizabeth (S.A.), Portland (U.S.A.), Portsmouth, Preston, Providence (U.S.A.), Rawtenstall, Reading, Redruth, Richmond, Rochdale, Rochester (U.S.A.), Rothwell, Runcorn, St. Annes-on-the-Sea, St. Bride Foundation Institute, St. Helens, Salford, Scranton (U.S.A.), Shoreditch, Smethwick, South Australia, South Shields, Sowerby Bridge, Stafford, Stirling, Stoke Newington, Taunton, Watford, Walthamstow, Wandsworth, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, West Bromwich, West Hartlepool, Westminster, Whitehaven, Widnes, Wigan, Windsor (Canada), Willesden (U.S.A.), Willesden Green, Wimbledon, Worcester, Worcester (U.S.A.), Workington, and York.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, PERIODICALS
AND REVIEWS, SUPPLIED TO THE NEWS
AND READING ROOMS.

Ashton-under-Lyne Evening	London Times
Reporter, 2 copies	Manchester Courier, 2 copies
Birmingham Daily Post	Manchester Evening Chronicle,
Daily Graphic	2 copies
Daily Mail	Manchester Evening News, 2
Daily News and Leader	copies
Freeman's Journal	Manchester Guardian, 2 copies
Glasgow Herald	Pall Mall Gazette
Liverpool Daily Post and	Westminster Gazette
Mercury	Yorkshire Daily Observer
Lloyd's List	Yorkshire Post
London Daily Telegraph	

WEEKLY.

American Machinist	Electrical Review
Architects and Builders' Journal	Engineer
Army and Navy Gazette	English Mechanic
Ashton-under-Lyne Herald,	Era
1 copies	Exchange and Mart (Mon. Wed. and Fri.)
Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter,	Field
4 copies	Fishing Gazette
* Aspirant	Gardener
Athenæum	Gardeners' Chronicle
* Bible Advocate	Graphic
* Board of Trade Journal	Illustrated London News
Bookseller	Irish Catholic
Boy's Own Paper	Iron and Coal Trades' Review
British Congregationalist	* Journal of the Society of Arts
British Journal of Photography	Labour News
British Weekly	London Guardian
* Canadian Gazette	Manchester City News
* Catholic Times	Manchester Weekly Times
Christian World	Municipal Journal
* Civil Service Candidate	* Motor
Clarion	* Motor Boat
* Commercial Motor	* Motor Cycling
* Contractors' Record	* Motor Traction
Cotton Factory Times	Nation
Country Life	Nature
County Gentleman and Land and Water	North Cheshire Herald
* Cycling.	Oldham Chronicle
* Drapers' Record	* Patent Office Journal
Electrical Engineering	* Phonetic Journal
	Publishers' Circular

Punch, 2 copies
 Railway Review
 Saturday Review
 Saturday Westminster
 Schoolmaster
 Schoolmistress
 Sketch

Spectator
 Sphere
 T. P's. Weekly
 Textile Mercury
 Truth
 * University Correspondent
 * Woodworker

MONTHLY.

* Agricultural Economist
 Antiquary
 Army List
 Badminton Magazine
 Blackwood's Magazine
 Bookman
 Cassier's Magazine
 Century Magazine
 Chamber's Journal
 * Church of England League
 Gazette
 Contemporary Review
 Cornhill Magazine
 * Educational Times
 Englishwoman
 Esperantist
 * Foresters' Miscellany
 Fortnightly Review
 Foundry Trades' Journal
 Fry's Magazine
 * Great Western Railway
 Magazine
 Harper's Monthly

Hora Jucunda (Magazine for
 the Blind)
 * Insurance Agent and the
 Insurance Review
 * Journal of the Clerk of
 Works' Association
 Knowledge
 Lectures Pour Tous (French
 Magazine)
 McClure's Magazine
 * Machinery Market
 * Musical Herald
 Musical Opinion
 Musical Times
 National Home-Reading Union
 Magazines
 Naturalist
 Nineteenth Century
 Outing Magazine
 Pall Mall Magazine
 Pearson's Magazine
 * Positivist Review

Progress (Magazine for the Blind)	* Sunday Advocate and National Sunday League Record
* Queensland Mining Journal	Textile Manufacturer
Quiver	* Traveller's Gazette
Review of Reviews	* Vaccination Inquirer
Scottish Field	* Vegetarian Messenger
Scribner's Magazine	Westminster Review
* State Correspondent	Windsor Magazine
Strand Magazine	Work
Studio	* Zoophilist

BI-MONTHLY.

The British Printer.

QUARTERLY.

Edinburgh Review	Post Office Guide
Hibbert Journal	Quarterly Review
Navy List	

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

Bradshaw's Guide	* Lancashire and Yorkshire
* Caledonian	* London and North Western
* Cambrian	* London and South Western
* Furness	* London, Brighton, and South Coast
* Great Central	* London, Chatham, and Dover
* Great Eastern	* Midland
* Great Northern	* South Eastern
* Great Western	

DIRECTORIES.

Kelly's Directory of Birmingham, Staffordshire,
Warwickshire, etc.

Kelly's Directory of Derbyshire

Kelly's Directory of Manchester, Salford, and Suburban

Kelly's Post Office London and Suburban Directory

Kelly's Textile Directory

Kelly's West Riding of Yorkshire

* London Directory

* Practical Advertising

* Stubbs' Directory

* The Advertiser's A.B.C.

FILES OF NEWSPAPERS.

The "Times"from 1881 to 1905.

The "Manchester Guardian" , 1883 to 1908.

The "Manchester Courier"....., 1887

The "Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter" , 1860 to date.

The "Stalybridge Herald" for 1888.

The "Ashton-under-Lyne Herald" from 1889 to date.

The "Ashton Chronicle" 1848-49.

The "Ashton-under-Lyne Standard," 1860-66, 1870-83.
and 1885.

The "Ashton-under-Lyne News".....from 1868-73.

'The Ashton-under-Lyne "Weekly Sentinel," 1911-1912.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION.

PUBLIC FREE LIBRARY.

TWENTIETH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LIBRARIAN,

FOR THE

Year ending March 17th, 1914.

Committee and Officers, 1913-1914.

CHAIRMAN:

ALDERMAN HEAP.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR MORISON.

THE MAYOR.

ALDERMEN HEGINBOTTOM AND KENWORTHY.

COUNCILLORS CRYER, F. HAMER, POLLITT AND PRICE.

HONORARY MEMBERS:

REV. J. M. CRAVEN, REV. B. HICKEY,

REV. F. R. C. HUTTON, M.A.,

REV. T. W. PUGHE-MORGAN AND
MARTIN V. KEOGH, Esq.

SUB-COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN:

ALDERMAN HEAP.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR MORISON.

THE MAYOR.

ALDERMAN KENWORTHY.

COUNCILLOR POLLITT.

REV. J. M. CRAVEN, REV. B. HICKEY,
AND REV. F. R. C. HUTTON, M.A.

LIBRARIAN:

GEO. FLETCHER.

SUB-LIBRARIAN:

R. F. MORRIS.

ASSISTANTS:

WILLIAM McNAMEE AND ARTHUR SUTTON.

CARETAKER:

JOHN HOLLINGWORTH.

REPORT

OF THE LIBRARIAN OF THE

Public Free Library,

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

To the Chairman and Members of the Free Library Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration and approval the 20th Annual Report covering the work of the Library during the year ended 17th March, 1914.

The total number of books now in the Library **Stock.** is 21,054. During the year under review 1,017 books have been added, and of these 960 have been purchased, 5 acquired by subscription to learned societies, and 52 received as donations. The replacements to stock number 221, and there have been 294 volumes rebound during the year.

The number of borrowers' tickets in force **Borrowers.** is 4,298, as compared with 4,056 at this time last year, an increase of 242. An analysis of the figures shows that the total is made up of 2,908 ordinary tickets, 574 extra tickets used only for works of a non-fictional character, 802 juvenile readers' tickets, together with 14 of the special reference tickets.

The number of borrowers from each of the districts served by the Library is as follows:—

Ashton-under-Lyne..	2813	with	3238	tickets.
Hurst.....	383	„	448	„
Audenshaw	315	„	345	„
Waterloo	207	„	255	„
Other Districts.....	6	„	12	„

The total number of books issued from the **Issues.** Lending and Reference Departments during the year is 87,752, a daily average of 363 volumes. This is an increase of 2,163 upon the figures of last year. The Lending Department issues number 71,733, as compared with 70,041 for 1912-13, and it is a source of some satisfaction to note that the issues from this Department at last show an increase when compared with those of a preceding year. In the two previous annual reports somewhat large decreases were noted, and it is to be hoped that the upward tendency which now appears to have set in will be well maintained in the future. The issues from the Reference Department also show an increase, viz., 16,019 as against 15,548.

A similar summary to the following has been found useful in the past as a means of facilitating comparison with the work done during the year then under review and previous years. The figures of the first column are those of the last year of work under the indicator system:—

	1905-6	1912-13	1913-14
Lending Department Issues..	50,037 ..	70,041 ..	71,733
Lending and Reference Departments Issues..	74,907 ..	85,589 ..	87,752
Average Daily Issues (Lending Department)	208 ..	287 ..	296
Fiction Percentage.....	61 ..	53 ..	52
Number of Borrowers' Tickets	2,554 ..	4,056 ..	4,298

Attention may be drawn to the low percentage of fiction issued and to the steady decline from 61 per cent. in 1905-6 to 52 per cent. in 1913-14.

The Annual Subscriptions of £50, £25
Subscriptions. and £5 have been received from the local authorities of Hurst and Waterloo, and the Military Authorities at the Barracks respectively. In November last the Urban District Council of Audenshaw approached the Library Committee asking upon what terms the Committee would allow the residents of Audenshaw to use the Lending Library, and after giving the matter due consideration, it was decided that an annual subscription of £60 would be a fair sum to charge for the privilege, the arrangement to be subject to annual revision if considered advisable by either party. These terms were accepted by the Audenshaw authorities, and the issue of books to their residents commenced with the New Year. As showing the need there was for library facilities in this district, attention may be drawn to the fact that although the arrangement has

been in force for three months only, no less than 345 tickets have been issued to Audenshaw residents.

The arrangement entered into between
Subscription the Committee and Messrs. W H
Departments. Smith & Son has always been very popular, and full advantage of the facilities provided has always been taken. This still remains one of the most successful sections of the Library's work, but it suffers from the fact that few works of a scientific or technical character can be obtained through it. In order to overcome this difficulty the Committee decided last May to subscribe to Lewis's (London) Medical and Scientific Circulating Library, and by a payment of £5 5s. 0d. per annum we are entitled to the use of fourteen volumes at a time. Although this arrangement has perhaps not been quite so successful as the first mentioned one it has proved very useful on many occasions, the medical men of the town in particular having made fairly good use of it

Book The Sub-Committee has met regularly
Selections. each month during the year and given careful consideration to all lists of selections and recommendations. The new books are made available to the public on the first Saturday in each month, and a list of such appears in the two local papers, reprints being supplied free to the borrowers. As in previous years we have been indebted to the Editor of the Ashton-under-Lyne "Herald" for kindly publishing the lists free of charge in the columns of his paper.

This is a matter that is receiving more **Books for the Blind.** attention from the general public than has been given to it in the past. When a blind person has been taught to read the Braille characters reading is probably his or her greatest consolation, but unfortunately the cost of books for the blind is prohibitive to the majority of these afflicted people. When it is considered that a work such as Dicken's "David Copperfield," in Braille type, can only be obtained in ten volumes, at a cost of 37/6, it is evident that neither private persons or even public libraries can purchase and find room for many works of this character. For some years this Committee did purchase such works, but five years ago an arrangement with the Ashton-under-Lyne and District Blind Society was entered into by the respective Library Committees of Ashton-under-Lyne, Stalybridge and Dukinfield to contribute annually a sum of money to the Society which, in turn, subscribes to the National Lending Library for the Blind. The blind readers of this district therefore have the benefit of a good and regular selection] of books at a cost which is not heavy, and is equitably borne by the three authorities concerned. In addition you also provide two monthly magazines, printed in Braille type, and these are circulated through the district by the staff of the Blind Society.

The outdoor collection of books was again **Exhibitions.** made a special exhibit last year, and during the summer months the usual display of holiday literature was made, many of the guide

books and leaflets supplied by the railway companies holiday resorts, etc , being distributed to enquirers.

Reference Department. Good progress in the recataloguing of this department has been made during the past year. The greater part of the collection has now been catalogued in slip form, and progress is also being made with the typing of the cards for the card catalogue. A catalogue in slip form of the local collection has also been compiled. Unfortunately the Reference Department has always been something of a Cinderella when compared with the other departments of the Library. Very little use is made of it by the general public, the principal reason for the neglect probably being the fact that the collection is not shelved in a room by itself or in an easily accessible position. This lack of public attention has led the Books Sub-Committees of the past to consider it inadvisable to make many additions to the stock of books with the consequence that the Department is sadly lacking in up-to-date works of a standard character.

A reference to the tables of issues on page 12 hardly bears out the statement that the Department is very little used, but a very large proportion of these issues is made up from the two or three hundred books always on loan in the Art Department of the Technical School.

The usual tables of statistics and other matter will be found in the pages that follow, and it only remains for me to add a cordial expression of thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Committee for their invariable kindness and

courtesy and the interest shown in the work of the Library. My thanks are also tendered to the members of the staff for their able assistance in the administrative work of the Library.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. FLETCHER.

Number of Volumes in Stock on March 17th, 1914.

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

Sciences	1070
Useful Arts	771
Fine and Recreative Arts.....	699
Social and Political Science.....	740
Philosophy and Religion	761
History and Geography.....	3018
Biography and Correspondence	1487
Language and Literature	549
Poetry and Drama	855
Prose Fiction	3392
Juvenile Literature.....	1351
Miscellaneous	815

15508

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT	4945
Books for the Blind	601

TOTAL..... 21054

Lending Department.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1913. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspond- ence.	Language and Literature	Poetry and Drama.	Prose Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	* Daily Average.
March 18th to															
31st	74	87	66	50	25	172	62	16	32	1382	596	49	2591	9	370
April	184	216	190	125	76	363	168	89	93	3105	1320	82	6011	26	286
May	167	156	162	101	72	311	112	91	69	2808	1131	101	5381	24	263
June	126	145	152	93	74	334	113	49	83	2804	1005	87	5066	25	241
July	133	137	156	97	69	348	108	75	63	2722	956	72	4936	16	235
August															
1st to 14th, &															
25th to 30th...	104	111	112	56	51	228	82	34	37	2043	693	61	3615	17	258
September...	143	184	160	102	62	339	91	41	68	2943	1364	96	5593	26	266
October ...	172	236	167	133	70	415	144	49	78	3374	2059	95	6992	27	304
November ...	164	225	133	132	76	427	139	113	108	3325	1839	96	6777	25	323
December ...	145	194	147	85	64	406	108	103	68	3206	1751	98	6375	25	319
1914.															
January	156	223	187	126	93	459	134	139	136	3940	1845	147	7585	26	345
February ...	160	191	161	132	87	431	123	91	116	3657	1660	140	6949	24	347
March															
2nd to 17th ...	82	118	105	81	53	223	85	55	54	2008	926	72	3862	14	351
Totals 1913-14.	1810	2224	1898	1313	872	4456	1469	945	1005	37397	17145	1199	71733	294	296
Totals 1912-13.	1967	2298	1876	1377	802	3944	1441	604	783	37212	16766	971	70041	295	287

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday seven hours, counted as one day.

Reference Department.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1913. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts.	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspond- ence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average. *
March													
18th to 31st ...	8	4	217	8	5	19	10	6	5	217	499	9	71
April	19	13	624	16	12	60	17	15	16	622	1414	26	67
May	19	13	581	12	11	78	15	14	11	577	1331	24	66
June	20	13	604	13	15	79	20	12	15	602	1393	25	66
July	17	14	616	9	9	73	15	28	9	611	1401	26	67
August													
1st to 14th, & 25th to 30th ...	8	10	407	3	9	32	8	12	11	416	916	17	65
September ...	17	19	571	13	19	70	45	29	18	585	1386	26	66
October	20	17	629	15	13	68	39	20	17	634	1472	17	64
November ...	18	14	595	15	15	60	33	27	14	576	1387	25	65
December ...	20	17	598	19	13	37	18	35	15	591	1363	25	68
1914.													
January	19	21	621	17	16	31	16	37	15	621	1414	26	64
February ...	17	17	572	16	14	25	11	21	14	576	1283	24	64
March													
2nd to 17th ..	12	8	338	11	7	16	10	11	8	339	760	14	61
Totals 1913-14.	214	180	6973	167	158	648	257	267	168	6987	16019	294	66
Totals 1912-13.	216	164	7274	174	190	292	199	218	204	6617	15548	295	64

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday seven hours ... counted as one day.

Lending and Reference Departments Combined

1913. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts	Fine and Recreative Arts	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography	Biography and Correspond- ence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	* Daily Average.
March 18th to 31st	82	91	283	58	30	191	72	22	37	1362	596	266	3090	9	443
April	203	229	814	141	88	423	185	104	109	3105	1320	704	7425	26	354
May	186	169	743	113	83	389	127	105	80	2908	1131	678	6712	24	336
June	146	159	756	106	89	413	133	61	98	2804	1005	689	6459	25	308
July	150	151	772	106	78	421	123	103	72	2722	956	683	6337	26	302
Augu-t 1st to 14th, & 25th to 30th...	112	121	519	59	60	260	90	46	48	2043	693	480	4531	17	324
September...	160	203	731	115	81	409	136	70	86	2913	1364	681	6979	26	332
October	192	233	796	148	83	483	183	69	95	3374	2059	729	8464	27	368
November...	182	239	728	147	91	487	172	140	122	3325	1839	692	8164	25	389
December ... 1914.	165	211	745	104	77	443	126	138	83	3206	1751	689	7738	25	387
January	175	244	808	143	109	490	150	176	151	3940	1845	768	8999	26	409
February ... March	177	208	733	148	101	456	134	112	130	3657	1660	716	8332	24	412
2nd to 17th ...	94	126	443	92	60	239	95	66	62	2008	926	411	4622	14	420
Totals 1913-14.	2024	2404	8871	1480	1030	5104	1726	1212	1173	37397	17145	8186	87752	294	363
Totals 1912-13.	2183	2462	9150	1551	992	4236	1640	822	987	37212	16766	7588	85589	295	351

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday seven hours, counted as one day.

General Summary.

LENDING AND REFERENCE DEPARTMENTS.

Volumes presented	52
Volumes purchased:—	
Additions	1017
Replacements	221
Volumes of Societies' Publications obtained by	
Subscription	5
Volumes bound	294
Volumes in Stock.....	21054
Total number of Issues	87752
Average Daily Issue	363
Tickets in force	4298
Overdue books written for	2140
Volumes returned from Infected Houses and Destroyed	Nil

General Data.

Population (Census 1911) Ashton-under-Lyne	45179
Do. do. Audenshaw	7977
Do. do. Hurst	7858
Do. do. Waterloo	3966
Rateable Value	£199,323 9s. 0d.
Public Libraries' Act adopted	1880
News Room (Town Hall) opened.....	1st August, 1881
Library (Town Hall) opened by the Mayoress	
(Mrs. Ely Andrew)	25th March, 1882
Library (Town Hall) closed preparatory to the re-	
cataloguing and removing of books to the Public	
Free Library	22nd April, 1893
Heginbottom Technical School and Public Free Library	
formally opened by the Mayor (Alderman Ely	
Andrew) and Alderman Thos. Heginbottom, 1st July, 1893	
Books removed from Town Hall to new Building,	
December, 1893	
News Room opened	1st January, 1894
Issue of books re-commenced	19th March, 1894
Juvenile Department opened.....	14th May, 1896
Library closed for alterations preparatory to the adop-	
tion of the Open Access System.....	31st July, 1906
Library opened on the Open Access System, 1st November, 1906	

Donors of Books, Pamphlets, &c.

Year Ending 17th March, 1914.

v volumes. *r.* reports. *p.* pamphlets.

Advertising Agency of London	1	<i>v</i>	11	<i>p</i>
Agent General for Australia.....	1			<i>r</i>
Aitken, Sir Max, M.P.....	20			<i>v</i>
Allen, Mrs. James.....	1			<i>v</i>
Ashton, Stalybridge, and Dukinfield Blind Society.....	1			<i>r</i>
Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary	1			<i>r</i>
Board of Trade	4			<i>r</i>
Briscoe, J. Potter, Esq.	12			<i>p</i>
British Museum Trustees	4			<i>v</i>
Buxton, Noel Esq., M.P.	1			<i>v</i>
Chicago Public Library	12			<i>p</i>
Co-operative Wholesale Societies, Ltd.....	4			<i>v</i>
Commissioner of Education, U.S.A.	2			<i>r</i>
Director of Education (Scotland).....	1			<i>r</i>
Director of Experimental Farms in Canada	1			<i>r</i>
Durham University	1			<i>v</i>
Fryer, Alfred C., Esq	1			<i>v</i>
Greeno, F. L., Esq.	1			<i>v</i>
Heginbottom, Herbert, Esq., J.P.	2			<i>v</i>
Hull Corporation	1			<i>v</i>
Incorporated Society of Musicians	1			<i>v</i>
International Federation of Cotton Spinners ...	2			<i>r</i>

Layton, Messrs. C. & E.....	2 v
Le Roy, Madame Soyez	1 v
London, Brighton and South Coast Railway ...	1 v
London University Correspondence College ...	1 v
Longmans, Green & Co., Messrs.....	1 v
Macmillan & Co., Messrs.	3 v
Marconi Press Agency	1 v
Mather & Crowther, Messrs.	1 v
Medical Officer of Health for the County	1 r
Miller, John F. Esq....	2 v
N. S. P. C. C.....	1 v
National Society for the Prevention of Destitution	2 v
National Union of Teachers ...	1 r
Neal, John, Esq.	4 v
Paton, Messrs. J. & J.	2 v
Phibbs, Miss Isabelle M.	1 v
Royal Agricultural Society ...	1 v
St. Anselm's Society	1 v
St. Louis Public Library	12 p
Scott, J. C. Esq.	1 p
Simon, Andre L., Esq.	1 v
Smithsonian Institution, U.S.A.	2 v
Snape, Dr. H. Lloyd	1 v
Society of Accountants and Auditors	1 v
Stuart, Mrs. James ..	1 v
Sunday School Union	2 v
Sutton Chas. W. Esq., M.A.....	1 v
Swallow, Henry J. Esq.	1 v
Swansea Public Library Committee	1 v 2 p
Tariff Commission	14 v 21 p

Annual Reports from the following Libraries:—Aberdeen, Accrington, Altrincham, Arbroath, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Barrow-in-Furness, Barry, Batley, Battersea, Belfast, Beverley, Birmingham, Bishopsgate Foundation Institute, Blackburn, Bolton, Bootle, Bournemouth, Bradford, Bradford (Mechanics' Institute), Bridgwater, Bristol, Bromley, Bury, Buxton, Cambridge, Cambridge (University Library), Cardiff, Cheltenham, Chorley, Christchurch (N.Z.), Cirencester, Colchester, Cork, Coventry, Cripplegate Foundation Institute, Croydon, Derby, Derby (Midland Ry Institute), Detroit U.S.A.) Dewsbury, Dudley, Dukinfield, Dumbarton, Dundee, Ealing, East London (S.A.), Eccles, Enoch Pratt Library Baltimore (U.S.A.), Erith, Evesham, Folkestone, Gateshead, Gloucester, Great Yarmouth, Hackney, Hereford, Hornsey, Hove, Huddersfield, Hyde, Ilkeston, Ipswich, Kendal, Kensal Rise, Kettering, Kidderminster, Kiltarn, Kinaston-upon-Thames, Knutsford, Leeds, Leicester, Leigh, Leyton, Lincoln, Loughborough, Lynn (U.S.A.), Malvern, Middlesbrough, Montrose, Nelson, New Orleans (U.S.A.), New South Wales, New York (U.S.A.), Newark-upon-Trent, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Northampton, Norwich, Nottingham, Oldbury, Penarth, Portland (U.S.A.), Portsmouth, Preston, Providence (U.S.A.), Rawtenstall, Redruth, Richmond, Rochdale, Rochester (U.S.A.), Rothwell, Rugby, Runcorn, St. Annes-on-the-Sea, St. Louis (U.S.A.), Scranton (U.S.A.), Shoreditch, Smethwick, South Shields, Sowerby Bridge, Stafford, Taunton, Tottingham, Twickenham, Walsall, Watford, Walthamstow, Wandsworth, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, West Australia, West Hartlepool, Weston-super-Mare, Widnes, Wigan, Willesden Green, Windsor (Canada), Worcester, Worcester (U.S.A.), and York.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, PERIODICALS
AND REVIEWS, SUPPLIED TO THE NEWS
AND READING ROOMS.

Ashton-under-Lyne Evening Reporter, 2 copies	London Daily Telegraph
Birmingham Daily Post	London Times
Daily Citizen	Manchester Courier, 2 copies
Daily Graphic	Manchester Evening Chronicle
Daily Mail	2 copies
Daily News and Leader	Manchester Evening News, 2 copies
Freeman's Journal	Manchester Guardian, 2 copies
Glasgow Herald	Pall Mall Gazette
Liverpool Daily Post and Mercury	Westminster Gazette
Lloyd's List	Yorkshire Daily Observer
	Yorkshire Post

WEEKLY.

Amateur Gardening	Engineer
Amateur Photographer	English Mechanic
American Machinist	Era
Architects and Builders' Journal	Exchange and Mart (Wed., Fri. and Sat.)
Army and Navy Gazette	Field
Ashton-under-Lyne Herald, 4 copies	Fishing Gazette
Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter, 4 copies	Gardener
* Aspirant	Gardeners' Chronicle
Athenæum	Graphic
* Bible Advocate	Illustrated London News
* Board of Trade Journal	Irish Catholic
Bookseller	Iron and Coal Trades' Review
British Congregationalist	* Journal of the Society of Arts
British Weekly	Labour News
* Canadian Gazette	London Guardian
* Catholic Times	Manchester City News
Christian World	Manchester Weekly Times
* Civil Service Candidate	Municipal Journal
Clarion	* Motor
* Commercial Motor	* Motor Boat
* Contractors' Record	* Motor Cycling
Cotton Factory Times	* Motor Traction
Country Life	Nation
County Gentleman and Land and Water	Nature
* Cycling.	North Cheshire Herald
Electrical Engineering	Oldham Chronicle
Electrical Review	* Patent Office Journal
	* Phonetic Journal
	Public Opinion
	Publishers' Circular

Punch, 2 copies
 Railway Review
 Saturday Review
 Saturday Westminster
 Schoolmaster
 Schoolmistress
 Sketch

Spectator
 Sphere
 T. P's. Weekly
 Textile Mercury
 Truth
 * University Correspondent

MONTHLY.

* Agricultural Economist	Harper's Monthly
Antiquary	Hora Jucunda (Magazine for the Blind)
Army List	* Insurance Agent and the Insurance Review
Badminton Magazine	* Journal of the Clerk of Works' Association
Blackwood's Magazine	Knowledge
Bookman	Lectures Pour Tous (French Magazine)
Boy's Own Paper	McClure's Magazine
Cassier's Magazine	* Machinery Market
Century Magazine	* Musical Herald
Chamber's Journal	Musical Opinion
* Church of England League Gazette	Musical Times
Contemporary Review	National Home-Reading Union Magazines
Cornhill Magazine	Naturalist
* Educational Times	Nineteenth Century
English Review	Outing Magazine
Englishwoman	Pail Mall Magazine
Esperantist	Pearson's Magazine
* Foresters' Miscellany	* Positivist Review
Fortnightly Review	
Foundry Trades' Journal	
Fry's Magazine	
* Great Western Railway Magazine	

Progress (Magazine for the Blind)	Textile Manufacturer
Quiver	* Traveller's Gazette
Review of Reviews	* Vaccination Inquirer
Scottish Field	* Vegetarian Messenger
Scribner's Magazine	Westminster Review
* State Correspondent	Windsor Magazine
Strand Magazine	Work
Studio	* Zoophilist

BI-MONTHLY.

The British Printer.

QUARTERLY.

Edinburgh Review	Post Office Guide
Hibbert Journal	Quarterly Review
Navy List	

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

Bradshaw's Guide	* Lancashire and Yorkshire
* Caledonian	* London and North Western
* Cambrian	* London and South Western
* Furness	* London, Brighton, and South Coast
* Great Central	* London, Chatham, and Dover
* Great Eastern	* Midland
* Great Northern	* South Eastern
* Great Western	

DIRECTORIES.

Gore's Liverpool Directory

Kelly's Directory of Birmingham, Staffordshire,
Warwickshire, etc.

Kelly's Directory of Cheshire

Kelly's Directory of Derbyshire

Kelly's Directory of Lancashire

Kelly's Directory of Manchester, Salford, and Suburban

Kelly's Post Office London and Suburban Directory

Kelly's Textile Directory

Kelly's West Riding of Yorkshire

* London Directory

* Practical Advertising

* Stubbs' Directory

* The Advertiser's A.B.C.

FILES OF NEWSPAPERS.

The "Times"from 1881 to 1905.

The "Manchester Guardian" , 1883 to 1908.

The "Manchester Courier"....., 1887.....

The "Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter" , 1860 to date.

The "Stalybridge Herald" for 1888.

The "Ashton-under-Lyne Herald"from 1889 to date.

The "Ashton Chronicle" 1848-49.

The "Ashton-under-Lyne Standard," 1860-66, 1870-83.
and 1885.

The "Ashton-under-Lyne News".....from 1868-73.

The Ashton-under-Lyne "Weekly Sentinel," 1911-1912.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION.

PUBLIC FREE LIBRARY

TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LIBRARIAN,

FOR THE

Year ended March 17th, 1915.

Committee and Officers, 1914—1915.

Chairman :

ALDERMAN HEAP.

Deputy-Chairman :

COUNCILLOR MORISON.

THE MAYOR.

ALDERMEN HEGINBOTTOM and KENWORTHY.
COUNCILLORS CRYER, HAMER, POLLITT, PRICE,
and SHEARD.

Honorary Members :

REV. J. M. CRAVEN, REV. B. HICKEY, REV. F. R. C.
HUTTON, M.A., REV. T. W. PUGHE-MORGAN, and
MARTIN V. KEOGH, Esq.

Sub-Committee :

Chairman :

ALDERMAN HEAP.

Deputy Chairman :

COUNCILLOR MORISON.

THE MAYOR.

ALDERMAN KENWORTHY.

COUNCILLOR POLLITT.

REV. J. M. CRAVEN, REV. B. HICKEY, and
REV. F. R. C. HUTTON, M.A.

LIBRARIAN :

GEO. FLETCHER, F.L.A.

SUB-LIBRARIAN :

R. F. MORRIS.

ASSISTANTS :

WILLIAM McNAMEE and ARTHUR SUTTON.

CARETAKER :

JOHN HOLLINGWORTH.

REPORT
OF THE LIBRARIAN OF THE
Public Free Library,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Free Library
Committee.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting herewith the Twenty-first Annual Report, covering the work of the Library during the year ended 17th March, 1915.

STOCK. The total number of books in the Library is 21,762. During the year 1914-15, the number of books added to the Library was 772, of which 721 were purchased, 44 received as donations, and seven acquired by subscription to learned societies. The replacements during the same period numbered 221, and 407 volumes have been re-bound. The number of books discarded was 64.

At the end of the year under review the
BORROWERS. number of borrowers' tickets in force was
 4,403, as compared with 4,298 at this time
 last year—an increase of 105.

This total was made up of 2,919 ordinary tickets, 555
 extra tickets used only for works of a non-fictional char-
 acter, 915 juvenile readers' tickets, together with 14 of the
 special reference tickets, which enable the holders to take
 for home reading certain works from the Reference
 Department.

The number of borrowers from each of the districts
 served by the Library was as follows:—

Ashton-under-Lyne	2,832	with	3,221	tickets.
Audenshaw	406	„	460	„
Hurst	394	„	454	„
Waterloo	209	„	254	„
Other districts	7	„	14	„

During the year there were 91,545 volumes
ISSUES. issued for home reading and reference pur-
 poses, giving a daily average of 384. This was
 an increase of 3,793 upon the figures of the previous year.

The Lending Department issues numbered 75,764, an
 increase of 4,031 as compared with the figures for 1913-14.
 The increase in this Department which was noted in the
 last Annual Report was well maintained until January
 of this year, since when there has been a somewhat serious
 decrease.

It is probable that many of our readers have joined His Majesty's Forces, whilst others are busily engaged upon War Office work, sick nursing duties, and in the various voluntary efforts to relieve distress caused by the War.

The Library may now be considered to have reached its majority, twenty-one years having elapsed since its re-organisation and opening in the present building. It may be interesting to compare the statistics relating to the period dealt with in the First Annual Report with those of 1905-6, the last year of work under the Indicator System, and those of 1914-15; and as an aid to this comparison the following summary is given:—

	1894-5	1905-6	1914-15
Lending Department Issues...	51,097	50,037	75,764
Lending & Reference Department Issues	54,642	74,907	91,545
Average Daily Issues (Lending Department)	177	208	317
Fiction Percentage	81	61	53
Number of Borrowers' Tickets	3,265	2,554	4,403

SUBSCRIPTIONS. The Annual Subscriptions of £60, £50, £25, and £5 have been received from the local authorities of Audenshaw, Hurst, Waterloo, and the military authorities at the Barracks respectively. The residents of the aforementioned districts take full advantage of the facilities placed at their disposal as may be seen from the figures given on Page 4.

When the last Report was placed before you the arrangement with the Urban District of Audenshaw had been in operation only three months, but attention was drawn to the gratifying response of the residents of the district, 315 of whom had taken out 345 tickets. After fifteen months' work there are 406 borrowers with 460 tickets.

The arrangements made by this Committee whereby many books not in the
SUBSCRIPTION DEPARTMENTS. Library may be obtained on loan continue to give satisfaction. By means of an Annual Payment of £14 to Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son the Library is entitled to the use of 40 volumes of a general character, and for £5 5s. 0d. per year we can borrow 14 volumes at a time from Lewis's (London) Medical and Scientific Circulating Library.

All books recommended for addition to the
BOOK SELECTIONS. Library are carefully considered by the Members of the Sub-Committee, who have met regularly each month during the past year.

The Collection of books on Outdoor Life, Recreations, &c., was again made the
EXHIBITIONS. basis of a special display last Spring and Summer, and during the Summer months we had the usual Exhibition of Holiday Literature, consisting of Guide Books, Booklets, Leaflets, and advertising matter issued by the various railways and steamboat companies, holiday resorts and associations, &c.

Upon the outbreak of the European War there was formed a large and representative collection of books dealing with the countries, social life, etc., of our Allies and enemies, together with works of a naval and military character, and others dealing with the points at issue and the subsidiary questions arising out of the Gréat Upheaval.

Maps of the various countries involved, and charts illustrating various actions and the course of events, are also displayed. But the object that appears to have drawn the attention of the public more than anything else is a large scale map of that part of the Continent in which the Western Campaign is being fought. The basis of the map was a large blackboard perforated with half-inch holes at regular intervals. Mr. Cronshaw, the Art Master, kindly painted on this a map of the area in question, correctly drawn to scale, on which the principal towns, rivers, &c., are shown. Wooden pegs coloured to represent the various armies are inserted in the holes approximating to the lines held by the opposing armies, and by means of these it is possible to show any advance or retreat of more than five miles or so in extent.

The map has been placed in the entrance hall, and it has certainly served the purpose of illustrating to some extent the course of events on the Western Front.

REFERENCE
DEPARTMENT. This Department has now been thoroughly overhauled, the stock of books having been classified, and a card catalogue prepared. As an inducement to the public to make a fuller use of the Department a

corner of the gallery has been set apart for the use of students, linoleum has been laid on the floor, and suitable tables and chairs provided. Notices drawing attention to these facilities, and to the fact that the Department is open to the public, have been placed in the Lending Department, and it is intended that standard works of a reference character shall be added to the collection as time and circumstances permit.

The Local Collection of books, which is continually being added to, has also been classified and catalogued.

In conclusion, I beg to tender my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Committee for the interest they have at all times shown in the work of the Library. The members of the staff have also rendered loyal support to all efforts made to gain from the community an increased interest in the Library and its resources.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

GEO. FLETCHER.

Number of Volumes in Stock on March 17th, 1915.

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

Sciences	1098
Useful Arts	843
Fine and Recreative Arts	739
Social and Political Science	776
Philosophy and Religion	793
History and Geography	3130
Biography and Correspondence	1500
Language and Literature	559
Poetry and Drama	873
Prose Fiction	3558
Juvenile Literature	1410
Miscellaneous	852

16131

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT	5030
Books for the Blind	601

Total 21762

Lending Department.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1914. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts.	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography.	Biography and Correspondence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Prose Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average.
March 18th to 31st	81	97	96	60	55	203	68	47	42	1775	744	59	3327	12	332
April	139	189	161	110	64	369	129	86	73	3418	1356	82	6176	23	325
May	163	202	146	118	92	414	138	46	51	3505	1398	97	6370	26	290
June	127	164	141	89	72	297	79	38	59	2992	1171	63	5292	23	294
July	119	172	165	115	75	416	107	30	53	3427	1300	73	6052	27	263
August 1st to 6th, and 24th to 31st	75	99	70	43	34	225	42	14	19	1586	606	28	2841	11	314
September	101	242	154	90	63	421	83	37	81	3254	1473	68	6067	26	288
October	145	263	172	127	80	467	113	31	76	3789	2169	73	7505	27	326
November	124	255	179	101	94	454	114	39	105	3679	2372	68	7584	25	361
December	111	217	138	116	91	417	83	36	85	3505	2207	75	7081	25	354
1915															
January	122	242	149	88	81	409	103	62	66	3711	1946	84	7063	25	336
February	162	235	136	123	67	334	81	43	61	3387	1722	68	6419	24	321
March 1st to 17th.	94	143	75	79	49	252	54	26	40	2114	1030	31	3987	15	332
Totals, 1914-15.	1563	2520	1782	1259	917	4678	1194	535	811	40142	19494	869	75764	289	317
Totals, 1913-14.	1810	2224	1898	1313	872	4456	1469	945	1005	37397	17145	1199	71733	294	296

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday seven hours, counted as one day.

Reference Department.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1914. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts.	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography.	Biography and Correspondence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average. *
March 18th to 31st.	10	9	296	10	8	16	8	19	8	295	679	12	68
April	19	16	569	18	14	31	13	26	14	562	1282	23	67
May	22	19	631	14	14	28	15	22	12	621	1398	26	61
June	17	16	553	15	12	30	13	12	12	542	1222	23	68
July	21	20	648	15	14	32	14	20	15	633	1432	27	62
August 1st to 6th and 24th to 31st.	8	10	266	8	8	17	9	14	10	262	612	11	68
September	18	22	632	21	16	33	21	24	18	610	1415	26	67
October	19	23	657	21	18	36	23	32	16	632	1477	27	64
November	17	26	599	16	19	39	18	33	14	577	1358	25	65
December	17	30	606	19	17	40	16	34	13	585	1377	25	68
1915.													
January	16	33	608	13	19	39	11	31	16	577	1366	25	65
February	16	35	588	12	17	40	15	32	14	560	1329	24	66
March 1st to 17th..	10	26	366	9	12	25	9	21	8	348	834	15	69
Totals, 1914-15.	210	285	7019	191	188	406	185	323	170	6804	15781	289	66
Totals, 1913-14.	214	180	6973	167	158	648	257	267	168	6987	16019	294	66

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday seven hours, counted as one day.

Lending and Reference Departments Combined.

1914. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts.	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography.	Biography and Correspondence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Prose Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	* Daily Average.
March 18th to 31st	91	106	392	70	63	219	76	66	50	1775	744	354	4006	12	421
April	158	205	730	128	78	400	142	112	87	3418	1356	644	7458	23	393
May	185	221	777	132	106	442	153	68	63	3505	1398	718	7768	26	353
June	144	180	694	104	84	327	92	50	71	2992	1171	605	6514	23	362
July	140	192	813	130	89	448	121	50	68	3427	1300	706	7484	27	325
August 1st to 6th															
and 24th to 31st	83	109	336	51	42	242	51	28	29	1586	606	290	3453	11	384
September	119	264	786	111	79	454	104	61	99	3254	1473	678	7482	26	356
October	164	286	829	148	98	503	136	63	92	3789	2169	705	8982	27	391
November	141	281	778	117	113	493	132	72	119	3679	2372	645	8942	25	426
December	128	247	744	135	108	457	99	70	98	3505	2207	660	8458	25	423
1915.															
January	138	275	757	101	100	448	114	96	82	3711	1946	661	8429	25	401
February	178	270	724	135	84	374	93	75	75	3387	1722	628	7748	24	387
March 1st to 17th..	104	169	441	83	61	277	63	47	48	2114	1030	379	4821	15	402
Totals, 1914-15.	1773	2805	8801	1450	1105	5084	1379	858	931	30142	19494	7673	91545	289	384
Totals, 1913-14.	2024	2404	8871	1480	1030	5104	1726	1212	1173	37397	17145	8186	87752	294	363

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday seven hours, counted as one day.

General Summary.

LENDING AND REFERENCE DEPARTMENTS.	
Volumes presented	44
Volumes purchased:—	
Additions	721
Replacements	221
Volumes of Societies' Publications obtained by Subscription	7
Volumes Bound	407
Volumes in Stock	21762
Total Number of Issues	91545
Average Daily Issue	384
Tickets in force	4403
Overdue Books written for	2069
Volumes Returned from Infected Houses and Destroyed	Nil

General Data.

Population (Census 1911), Ashton-under-Lyne	45179
Do. do. Audenshaw	7977
Do. do. Hurst	7858
Do. do. Waterloo	3966
Rateable Value	£198,586 12 0
Public Libraries Act adopted	1880
News Room (Town Hall) opened	1st August, 1881
Library (Town Hall) opened by the Mayoress (Mrs. Ely Andrew)	25th March, 1882
Library (Town Hall) closed preparatory to the re-cataloguing and removing of books to the Public Free Library	22nd April, 1893
Heginbottom Technical School and Public Free Library formally opened by the Mayor (Alderman Ely Andrew) and Alderman Thos. Heginbottom,	1st July, 1893
Books removed from Town Hall to New Building,	December, 1893
News Room opened	1st January, 1894
Issue of Books re-commenced	19th March, 1894
Juvenile Department Opened	14th May, 1896
Library Closed for Alterations preparatory to the adoption of the Open Access System	31st July, 1906
Library opened on the Open Access System,	1st November, 1906

Donors of Books, Pamphlets, &c.

Year ending 17th March, 1915.

v. volumes.	R. reports.	P. pamphlets.	
Accountants, Incorporated Society of			1 V
Armstrong, Charles W., Esq.			1 V
Ashton, Thomas, Esq.			1 V
Ashton, Stalybridge, and Dukinfield Blind Society....			1 R
Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary			1 R
Board of Trade			3 R
Bonnaire, H., Esq.			1 V
Briscoe, H. Potter, Esq.			12 P
British Dominions General Insurance Co.			2 V
British Museum Trustees			9 V
Carnegie United Kingdom Trust			1 V
Co-operative Union			1 V
Durham University			1 V
Guppy, Henry, Esq., M.A.	2	V	5 P
Hardy, Ernest W., Esq.			1 V
Kegan, Paul, Trench, Trubner, Messrs.			1 V
Kenyon, Wm. and Sons, Ltd.			1 P
Leamington Corporation			1 V
London College of Music			1 V
Longmans, Green, and Co., Messrs.			1 V
Macmillan and Co., Messrs.			1 V
Mather and Crowther, Messrs.			1 V
Medical Officer of Health for the County			1 R
National Temperance Federation	2	V	1 R
National Union of Teachers			2 R
Neal, John, Esq.			4 V
Paton, Messrs. J. and J.			1 V
"Round Table," Editor of			1 P
Royal Colonial Institute.....			1 V
Royal Insurance Co.			1 V
St. Louis Public Library			12 P
Sell's, Ltd.			1 V
Smithsonian Institution, U.S.A.			2 V
Sutton, Chas. W., Esq., M.A.			1 V
Town and County Directories. Ltd., Messrs.			1 V

Annual Reports from the following Libraries:—Aberdeen, Accrington, Adyar (India), Altrincham, Barrow-in-Furness, Barry, Batley, Battersea, Belfast, Beverley, Birmingham, Bishopsgate Foundation Institute, Blackburn, Bolton, Bootle, Bournemouth, Bradford, Brierley Hill, Brighton, Bristol, Bury, Buxton, Cambridge, Cambridge University Library, Cheltenham, Chiswick, Chorley, Christchurch (N.Z.), Cirencester, Clitheroe, Colchester, Cork, Coventry, Cripple-gate Foundation Institute, Croydon, Derby, Dewsbury, Dudley, Dukinfield, Dumbarton, Dundee, Ealing, East London (S.A.), Eccles, Erith, Evesham, Folkestone, Gateshead, Gloucester, Hackney, Harlsden, Hartlepool, Hereford, Hindley, Hornsey, Hove, Huddersfield, Hull, Hyde, Ilkeston, Ilkley, Ipswich, Keighley, Kendal, Kensal Rise, Kettering, Kidderminster, Kilburn, Kingston-upon-Thames, Knutsford, Leeds, Leicester, Leigh, Leyton, Lincoln, Loughborough, Lynn (U.S.A.), Malvern, Middlesbrough, Montrose, Nelson, New York (U.S.A.), Newark-upon-Trent, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Norwich, Nottingham, Oldbury, Penarth, Plymouth, Portland (U.S.A.), Portsmouth, Preston, Providence (U.S.A.), Radcliffe, Rawtenstall, Redruth, Richmond, Rochdale, Rothwell, Runcorn, St. Annes-on-the-Sea, St. Helens, Salisbury, Shoreditch, Smethwick, South Shields, Southwark, Sowerby Bridge, Stafford, Stoke Newington, Taunton, Teddington, Tottenham, Victoria (B.C.), Walsall, Watford, Walthamstow, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, West Bromwich, West Hartlepool, Westminster, Weston-super-Mare, Whitehaven, Widnes, Wigan, Willesden, Wimbledon, Windsor (Canada), Worcester, Worcester (U.S.A.), Workington, Yarmouth, and York.

Donors of Books, Etc.—*continued.*

News and Magazine Rooms.

Chapman, Samuel, Esq., “Engineering.”

Co-operative Society, Working Men’s “Co-operative News” and “Millgate Monthly.”

New Church Society, “New Church Magazine.”

Also the Newspapers, &c., marked with an asterisk in the following list, which are presented by the Publishers.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, PERIODICALS AND REVIEWS SUPPLIED TO THE NEWS AND READING ROOMS.

DAILY.

Birmingham Daily Post.	London Times.
Daily Citizen.	Manchester Courier, 2 copies.
Daily Graphic.	Manchester Evening Chronicle,
Daily Mail.	2 copies.
Daily News and Leader.	Manchester Evening News,
Freeman’s Journal.	2 copies.
Glasgow Herald.	Manchester Guardian, 2 copies
Liverpool Daily Post and	Morning Post.
Mercury.	Pall Mall Gazette.
Lloyd’s List.	Westminster Gazette.
London Daily Telegraph.	Yorkshire Post.

WEEKLY.

Amateur Gardening.	Exchange and Mart (Fri.
Amateur Photographer.	and Sat.)
American Machinist.	Field.
Architects and Builders'	Fishing Gazette.
Journal.	Gardener.
Army and Navy Gazette.	Gardeners' Chronicle.
Ashton-under-Lyne Herald,	Graphic.
4 copies.	Great Deeds of the Great
Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter,	War.
4 copies.	Illustrated London News.
Athenæum.	Irish Catholic.
*Bible Advocate.	Iron and Coal Trades
*Board of Trade Journal.	Review.
Bookseller.	*Journal of the Society of
British Weekly.	Arts.
*Canadian Gazette.	Labour News.
*Catholic Times.	London Guardian.
Christian World.	Machinery Market.
*Civil Service Candidate.	Manchester City News.
Clarion.	Manchester Weekly Times.
*Commercial Motor.	Municipal Journal.
*Contractors' Record.	*Motor Traction.
Cotton Factory Times.	Nation.
Country Life.	Nature.
County Gentleman and	North Cheshire Herald.
Land and Water	Oldham Chronicle.
Electrical Engineering.	*Patent Office Journal.
Electrical Review.	Public Opinion.
Engineer.	Publisher's Circular.
English Mechanic.	Punch, 2 copies.
Era.	Railway Review.

Saturday Review.	Sphere.
Saturday Westminster.	T.P.'s Weekly.
Schoolmaster.	Textile Mercury.
Schoolmistress.	Truth.
Sketch.	*University Correspondent.
Spectator.	

MONTHLY.

Antiquary.	Hora Jucunda (Magazine for the Blind).
Army List.	
Badminton Magazine.	*Insurance Agent and the Insurance Review.
Blackwood's Magazine.	*Journal of the Clerk of Works' Association.
Bookman.	Knowledge.
Boys' Own Paper.	Lectures Pour Tous (French Magazine).
British Congregationalist.	McClure's Magazine.
Cassier's Magazine.	*Musical Herald.
Century Magazine.	Musical Opinion.
Chambers' Journal.	Musical Times.
*Church of England League Gazette.	Nash's and Pall Mall Magazine.
Contemporary Review.	National Home - Reading Union Magazines.
Cornhill Magazine.	Naturalist.
*Educational Times.	Nineteenth Century.
English Review.	Outing Magazine.
Englishwoman.	Pearson's Magazine.
Esperantist.	*Positivist Review.
*Foresters' Miscellany.	Progress (Magazine for the Blind).
Fortnightly Review.	
Foundry Trades' Journal.	
*Great Western Railway Magazine.	
Harper's Monthly.	

Quiver.	Textile Manufacturer.
Review of Reviews.	*Vaccination Inquirer.
Scottish Field.	*Vegeterian Messenger.
Scribner's Magazine.	Windsor Magazine. "
Strand Magazine.	Work.
Studio.	*Zoophilist.

BI-MONTHLY.

The British Printer.

QUARTERLY.

Edinburgh Review.	Post Office Guide.
Hibbert Journal.	Quarterly Review.
Navy List.	

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

Bradshaw's Guide.	*London and North-Western.
*Caledonian.	*London and South-Western.
*Cambrian.	*London, Brighton, and
*Furness.	South Coast.
*Great Central.	*London, Chatham, and
*Great Eastern.	Dover.
*Great Northern.	*Midland.
*Great Western.	*South Eastern.
*Lancashire and Yorkshire.	

DIRECTORIES.

Gore's Liverpool Directory.

Kelly's Directory of Birmingham, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, etc.

Kelly's Directory of Cheshire.

Kelly's Directory of Derbyshire.

Kelly's Directory of Lancashire.

Kelly's Directory of Manchester, Salford, and Suburban.

Kelly's Post Office London and Suburban Directory.

Kelly's Textile Directory.

Kelly's West Riding of Yorkshire.

*London Directory.

*Practical Advertising.

*Stubbs' Directory.

*The Advertiser's A.B.C.

FILES OF NEWSPAPERS.

The "Times"from 1881 to 1905

The "Manchester Guardian" ,, 1883 to 1908

The "Manchester Courier" ,, 1887 ,,

The "Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter" ,, 1860 to date

The "Stalybridge Herald" for 1888

The "Ashton-under-Lyne Herald"from 1889 to date

The "Ashton Chronicle" 1848-49

The "Ashton-under-Lyne Standard "

1860-66, 1870-83, and 1885

The "Ashton-under-Lyne News"from 1868-73

The Ashton-under-Lyne "Weekly Sentinel"1911-1912

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CORPORATION.

PUBLIC FREE LIBRARY

Twenty-Second Annual Report

OF THE

LIBRARIAN

FOR THE

Year ended March 17th, 1916.

Committee and Officers, 1915—1916.

Chairman :

ALDERMAN HEAP.

Deputy-Chairman :

COUNCILLOR MORISON.

THE MAYOR.

ALDERMEN HEGINBOTTOM and KENWORTHY.

COUNCILLORS CRAWSHAW, CRYER, POLLITT,
PRICE, and SHEARD.

Honorary Members:

REV. J. M. CRAVEN, REV. B. HICKEY, REV. F. R. C.
HUTTON, M.A., REV. T. W. PUGHE-MORGAN, and
MARTIN V. KEOGH, Esq.

Sub-Committee :

Chairman :

ALDERMAN HEAP.

Deputy Chairman:

COUNCILLOR MORISON.

THE MAYOR.

ALDERMAN KENWORTHY.

COUNCILLOR POLLITT.

REV. J. M. CRAVEN, REV. B. HICKEY, and
REV. F. R. C. HUTTON, M.A.

LIBRARIAN :

GEO. FLETCHER, F.L.A.

SUB-LIBRARIAN :

*R. F. M O R R I S.

ASSISTANTS.

*WILLIAM McNAMEE, *ARTHUR SUTTON.

TEMPORARY ASSISTANTS :

WM. R. WETHERALL, LILIAN DYSON.
MARIAN SMETHURST.

CARETAKER.

ROBERT SUTTON.

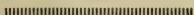
*On Active Service.

REPORT

OF THE LIBRARIAN OF THE

Public Free Library,

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.



*To the Chairman and Members of the Free Library
Committee.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration and approval the Twenty Second Annual Report upon the work of the Library for the year ended 17th March, 1916.

STOCK. The total number of books now in the Library is 22,273. During the year under review the number of books added to the library was 585, of which 542 were purchased, 37 received as donations, and 6 acquired by subscription to various learned societies. The replacements to stock during this period were 86, the books re-bound numbered 110, and 73 volumes have been discarded.

The number of borrowers' tickets in force at the end of the Library year was 4,259, a decrease of 144 compared with the figures of the previous year. The total of 4,259 was made up of 2,682 ordinary tickets, 440 extra tickets for works of a non-fictional character, 1,127 juvenile readers' tickets, and 10 Reference Tickets.

The number of borrowers from each of the districts served by the Library was as follows:—

Ashton-under-Lyne	2,864	with	3,168	tickets.
Audenshaw	276	„	316	„
Hurst	406	„	456	„
Waterloo	265	„	303	„
Other districts	8	„	16	„

The total number of books issued from the ISSUES. Lending and Reference Departments was 80,358, a daily average of 334. From the Lending Department the issues were 64,226, a decrease of 11,538 as compared with the figures of the previous year. In the last Annual Report this decrease was foreshadowed, it being there pointed out that although the first five months of the War had little or no effect upon the issue of books for home-reading, a somewhat serious decrease had set in during January, 1915, and unfortunately this decrease has since been in evidence month by month. A similar decrease is apparent in reports from the majority of the public libraries in the country, the general and the only reasonable explanation given being that of the continuance of the War, with its effects upon the lives and activities of the people.

Although there is this decrease in every section of the Lending Department, signs are not wanting to show that people still read good literature, and that not only do they still turn to the Public Library for recreation and restful pleasure, but also for purposes of study and research. The mind sooner or later revolts from the stimulating and too often horrifying diet of War news, and the need is felt for something more substantial for it to feed upon; or, at least, something that will help to take the thoughts away from present-day affairs.

A fact to which attention may be drawn is that although the total number of borrowers' tickets in force is less than it was last year at this time, there seems, from personal observation, to be a larger number of new borrowers being drawn to the Library.

The following summary may be found useful as an aid to the comparison of the issues, etc., of the year under review with those of last year and also those of 1905-6, the last complete year of work under the indicator system:—

	1905-6	1914-15	1915-16
Lending Department Issues...	50,037	75,764	64,226
Lending & Reference Department Issues	74,907	91,545	80,358
Average Daily Issues (Lending Department)	208	317	264
Fiction Percentage	61	53	52
Number of Borrowers' Tickets	2,554	4,402	4,259

Annual subscriptions of £60, £50, and £25 have been again received from the local authorities of Audenshaw, Hurst, and Waterloo respectively. The Military Authorities at the Barracks have ceased to subscribe to the Library for the present.

Subscription Departments. We have again had the benefit accruing from the annual subscription paid to Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's Circulating Library. The annual subscription to Messrs. H. K. Lewis and Co.'s Medical and Scientific Circulating Library has been reduced from £5 to one of £3 for the present.

Book Selections. In June last it was decided that the Books Sub-Committee should cease to be called together monthly, and that the monthly list of selections and recommendations should be dealt with at the ordinary meetings of the Library Committee. This step was taken in order to lessen the number of meetings to which members were being called.

Exhibitions. During the past year the only special display was that of books dealing with the War, e.g., books upon the War and its phases, the countries, social life, etc., of our allies and enemies, naval and military matters, etc., etc. Maps and plans of the areas involved continue to be shown, but owing to the fact that there has been little movement on the various fronts, interest in these has greatly lessened.

LOCAL COLLECTION.

A welcome addition to the collection of books of a local character has been made by the recent purchase of part of the important collection of local literature belonging to Mr. D. F. Howorth. These works are all in splendid condition, even the pamphlets having each been specially bound.

STAFF. In May last the three assistants sought and obtained permission to join H.M. Army. Messrs. R. F. Morris, the Sub-Librarian, and Arthur Sutton, Junior Assistant, joined the Mechanical Transport Section of the Army Service Corps, and Mr. Wm. McNamee, Senior Assistant, was accepted for the R.A.M.C., all leaving within a fortnight or so. It thus became necessary to obtain assistance for the Librarian, and eventually two young ladies—Miss L. Dyson and Miss M. Smethurst, who had patriotically offered their services to the Labour Exchange for War Work, and Mr. W. R. Wetherall, were appointed as temporary assistants. The hours of opening the Library were somewhat curtailed to enable the Librarian to be on duty the whole of the time the Library is open. Each member of the temporary staff has worked splendidly, and it is largely due to their efforts that the borrowers have been affected so little by the change from a staff of trained and experienced persons to one in which three out of four members were quite inexperienced.

In November last the Librarian was allowed to attest under the Derby Scheme of Recruiting for the Army.

In October last Mr. John Hollingworth, who had been Caretaker of the Library and Technical School from its beginnings as a building, a period of over twenty-two years, was obliged by reason of old age and other infirmities to tender his resignation. An official expression of the Committee's regret at the necessity for his taking this step, coupled with congratulations upon a long period of faithful service, was sent him. Mr. Robert Sutton, Assistant Caretaker, Town Hall, was appointed to the vacant position.

During the last month of the period covered by this Report it was decided that the Reading and Magazine Rooms should be closed at 9-30 p.m. instead of 10 p.m.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. FLETCHER.

Number of Volumes in Stock on March 17th, 1916

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

Sciences	1116
Useful Arts	889
Fine and Recreative Arts	790
Social and Political Science	800
Philosophy and Religion.....	802
History and Geography	3252
Biography and Correspondence	1510
Language and Literature	567
Poetry and Drama	884
Prose Fiction	3643
Juvenile Literature	1460
Miscellaneous	866

16579

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT	5093
Books for the Blind	601

Total 22273

Lending Department.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1915. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts.	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography.	Biography and Correspondence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Prose Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	* Daily Average
March 18th to 31st	77	102	69	52	30	172	39	23	32	1742	733	30	3101	12	310
April	120	196	156	82	62	297	56	34	69	3136	1458	36	5702	23	300
May	94	144	134	65	49	224	59	26	62	2727	1307	28	4919	23	259
June	108	140	128	57	50	252	53	27	66	2667	1257	53	4858	26	231
July	114	169	154	65	55	279	74	18	48	2844	1447	76	5343	27	233
Aug. 3rd to 20th...	55	87	89	31	25	151	36	20	23	1748	860	34	3159	16	243
Sept. 6th to 30th..	99	153	106	43	45	247	57	23	43	2338	1258	36	4448	22	247
October	139	191	117	69	51	327	77	28	52	2807	2173	44	6075	26	258
November	129	172	112	73	63	306	67	33	63	2814	1847	64	5743	26	274
December	92	166	152	76	49	299	76	31	64	2865	1801	43	5714	25	250
1916.															
January	110	235	161	70	45	285	89	20	73	3076	1650	50	5864	25	279
February	117	198	133	63	42	323	81	25	60	2831	1656	64	5593	25	280
March	56	126	91	39	23	215	49	14	41	1907	1107	39	3707	15	285
Totals, 1915-16.	1310	2079	1602	785	589	3377	813	322	696	33502	18544	597	64226	291	264
Totals, 1914-15.	1563	2520	1782	1259	917	4678	1194	535	811	40142	19494	869	75764	289	317

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday seven hours, counted as one day.

Reference Department.

Monthly issue in each Class, No. of Days the Library was open, Total Vols. Issued, and Daily Average.

1915. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts.	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography.	Bibliography and Correspondence	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	Daily Average.
March 18th to 31st.	12	23	285	9	11	30	7	20	10	261	668	12	10
April	19	46	546	15	21	81	13	43	16	508	1308	23	73
May	43	38	536	16	21	94	28	36	11	494	1317	23	69
June	37	36	593	26	26	49	33	37	45	571	1453	26	69
July	37	39	600	27	27	38	39	38	40	614	1499	27	71
Aug. 3rd to 20th..	19	21	335	16	16	22	16	20	21	340	826	16	64
Sept. 6th to 30th..	29	29	478	22	22	30	22	30	31	478	1171	22	65
October	38	37	596	26	26	40	26	26	39	595	1449	26	66
November	36	38	597	26	26	39	26	26	40	599	1453	26	70
December	35	33	571	25	25	36	25	25	37	572	1384	25	66
1916.													
January	34	35	570	25	25	35	25	30	33	572	1384	25	66
February	34	33	574	25	25	36	25	25	36	571	1384	25	69
March 1st to 17th..	20	21	345	15	15	21	15	15	23	346	836	15	60
Totals 1915-16.	393	429	6626	273	286	551	300	371	382	6521	16132	291	63
Totals, 1914-15.	210	285	7019	191	188	406	185	323	170	6804	15781	289	66

* Tuesday three hours and Saturday seven hours, counted as one day.

Lending and Reference Departments Combined.

1915. MONTH.	Sciences.	Useful Arts.	Fine and Recreative Arts.	Social and Political Science.	Philosophy and Religion.	History and Geography.	Biography and Correspondence.	Language and Literature.	Poetry and Drama.	Prose Fiction.	Juvenile Literature.	Miscellaneous.	Total Vols. Issued.	Days open.	* Daily Average.
March 18th to 31st	89	125	354	61	41	202	46	43	42	1742	733	291	3769	12	376
April	139	242	702	97	83	378	69	77	85	3136	1458	544	7010	23	316
May	137	182	670	81	70	318	87	62	73	2727	1307	522	6236	23	317
June	145	176	721	83	76	301	86	64	111	2637	1257	624	6311	26	300
July	151	208	754	92	82	317	113	56	88	2844	1447	690	6812	27	297
August 3rd to 20th	74	108	424	47	41	173	52	40	44	1718	860	374	3985	16	306
Sept. 6th to 30th..	128	182	584	65	67	277	79	53	74	2338	1258	514	5619	22	312
October	177	228	713	95	77	367	103	54	91	2807	2173	639	7524	26	342
November	165	210	709	99	89	345	93	59	103	2814	1847	663	7196	26	343
December	127	199	723	101	74	335	101	56	101	2865	1801	615	7098	25	338
1916.															
January	144	270	731	95	70	320	114	50	106	3076	1650	622	7248	25	298
February	151	231	707	88	67	359	106	50	96	2831	1656	635	6977	25	349
March 1st to 17th..	76	147	436	54	38	236	64	29	64	1907	1107	385	4543	15	349
Totals, 1915-16	1703	2508	8228	1058	875	3928	1113	693	1078	33502	18554	7118	80358	291	334
Totals, 1914-15.	1773	2805	8801	1450	1105	5084	1379	858	981	40142	19194	7673	91545	289	384

* Tuesday three hours, and Saturday seven hours, counted as one day.

General Summary

LENDING AND REFERENCE DEPARTMENTS.

Volumes presented	37
Volumes purchased:—	
Additions	542
Replacements	86
Volumes of Societies' Publications obtained by Subscription	6
Volumes Bound	110
Volumes in Stock	22273
Total Number of Issues	80358
Average Daily Issue	334
Tickets in force	4259
Overdue Books written for	1956
Volumes Returned from Infected Houses and Destroyed	2

General Data

Population (Census 1911), Ashton-under-Lyne	45179
Do. do. Audenshaw	7977
Do. do. Hurst	7858
Do. do. Waterloo	3966
Rateable Value	£199,140 1 0
Public Libraries Act adopted	1880
News Room (Town Hall) opened	1st August, 1881
Library (Town Hall) opened by the Mayoress (Mrs. Ely Andrew)	25th March, 1882
Library (Town Hall) closed preparatory to the re-cataloguing and removing of books to the Public Free Library	22nd April, 1893
Heginbottom Technical School and Public Free Library formally opened by the Mayor (Alderman Ely Andrew) and Alderman Thos. Heginbottom	1st July, 1893
Books removed from Town Hall to New Building,	December, 1893
News Room opened	1st January, 1894
Issue of Books re-commenced	19th March, 1894
Juvenile Department Opened	14th May, 1896
Library Closed for Alterations preparatory to the adoption of the Open Access System.....	31st July, 1906
Library opened on the Open Access System,	1st November, 1906

Donors of Books, Pamphlets, &c.

Year ended 17th March, 1916

v. volumes.	R. reports.	P. pamphlets.
Accountants, Incorporated Society of		1 v
Ashton, Stalybridge, and Dukinfield Blind Society....		1 R
Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary		1 R
Bonnaire, H. Esq.		1 v
Briscoe, H. Potter, Esq.		12 P
British Dominions General Insurance Co.		2 v
British Museum Trustees		8 v
Bureau of Education, Washington		2 R
Carnegie United Kingdom Trust	2 v	1 R
Cheetham, J. O., Esq.		1 v
Cox, Lissant, Esq., L.C.C.		1 R
Durham University		1 v
Guppy, Henry, Esq., M.A.		3 v
Garnier, Col. J.		2 v
Gillespie, Mrs. Honeyman, Trustees of		1 v
Humanitarian League		1 v
International Women Suffrage		1 v
Jones, Sir Alfred L. (Exors. of)		1 v
Lancashire Authors' Association		3 R
Lawrence, Lady Durning		1 v
Lees, James (Exors. of)		10 v
Manchester Statistical Society		1 R
Mather and Crowther, Messrs.		1 v
Medical Officer of Health for County Palatine		1 R
Musicians, Incorporated Society of	1 v	4 P
Neal, John, Esq.		4 v
Reeves, Mrs. Boleyn		1 v
Royal Agricultural Society, Council of	1 v	1 P
Royle, Wm., Esq.		1 v
Smithsonian Institution	3 v	1 R
Union of Lancs. and Chesh. Institutes		1 R
Willmore, Edward, Esq.		1 v
Wireless Press, Ltd.		1 v

Annual Reports from the following Libraries: Aberdeen, Accrington, Adyar. (India), Barrow in Furness, Barry, Batley, Battersea, Belfast, Beverley, Birkenhead, Birmingham, Bishopsgate Foundation Institute, Blackburn, Bolton, Bootle, Bournemouth, Bradford, Bradford Mechanics' Institute, Bridgewater, Brierley Hill, Brighton, Bristol, Burnley, Bury, Buxton, Cambridge University Library, Cheltenham, Chorley, Clitheroe, Colchester, Cork, Cripplegate Foundation Institute, Croydon, Derby, Doncaster, Dudley, Dukinfield, Dumbarton, Dundee, Durban (S.A.), Ealing, Eastbourne, Eccles, Evesham, Gateshead, Hackney, Harlesden, Hereford, Hindley, Hornsey, Hove, Huddersfield, Hull, Hyde, Ilkeston, Ipswich, Keighley, Kendal, Kettering, Kilburn, Kingston-upon-Thames, Knutsford, Leeds, Leicester, Leigh, Leyton, Lincoln, Loughborough, Luton, Lynn (U.S.A.), Malvern, Middlesbrough, Montrose, Nantwich, Nelson, New York, Northampton, Norwich, Nottingham, Oldbury, Penarth, Plymouth, Portland (U.S.A.), Portsmouth, Preston, Providence (U.S.A.), Radcliffe, Rawtenstall, Richmond (Surrey), Rochdale, Rothwell, Rugby, Runcorn, St. Annes-on-the-Sea, St. Helens, St. John's (N.B. Canada), St. Louis, (U.S.A.), Salford, Salisbury, Scranton (U.S.A.), Shoreditch, Smethwick, South Africa, South Australia, Sowerby Bridge, Stafford, Stoke Newington, Taunton, Teddington, Todmorden, Torquay, Tottenham, Truro, Twickenham, Wandsworth, Watford, Walthamstow, Westhoughton, Westminster, Whitehaven, Wigan, Willesden, Wimbledon, Winchester, Windsor (Canada), Worcester (U.S.A.), Workington and York.

Donors of Books, Etc.—*continued.*

News and Magazine Rooms.

Chapman, Samuel, Esq., "Engineering."

Co-operative Society, Working Men's. "Co-operative News" and "Millgate Monthly."

New Church Society, "New Church Magazine."

Also the Newspapers, etc., marked with an asterisk in the following list, which are presented by the Publishers.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, PERIODICALS AND REVIEWS SUPPLIED TO THE NEWS AND READING ROOMS.

DAILY.

Birmingham Daily Post.	London Times.
Daily Dispatch (2 copies).	Manchester Evening Chronicle,
Daily Graphic.	2 copies.
Daily Mail.	Manchester Evening News,
Daily News and Leader.	2 copies.
Freeman's Journal.	Manchester Guardian, 2 copies
Glasgow Herald.	Morning Post.
Liverpool Daily Post and	Pall Mall Gazette.
Mercury.	Westminster Gazette.
Lloyd's List.	Yorkshire Post.
London Daily Telegraph.	

WEEKLY.

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| Amateur Gardening. | Gardener. |
| Amateur Photography. | Gardeners' Chronicle. |
| American Machinist. | Graphic. |
| Architects and Builders' Journal. | Illustrated London News. |
| Ashton-under-Lyne Herald,
4 copies. | Irish Catholic. |
| Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter,
4 copies. | Iron and Coal Trades
Review. |
| *Bible Advocate. | *Journal of the Society of
Arts. |
| *Board of Trade Journal. | Labour News. |
| British Weekly. | Land and Water. |
| *Canadian Gazette. | London Guardian. |
| Christian World. | *Machinery Market. |
| *Civil Service Candidate. | Manchester City News. |
| Clarion. | Manchester Weekly Times. |
| *Commercial Motor. | Municipal Journal. |
| *Contractors' Record. | *Motor Traction. |
| Cotton Factory Times. | Nation. |
| Country Life. | Nature. |
| Electrical Engineering. | North Cheshire Herald. |
| Electrical Review. | Oldham Chronicle. |
| Engineer. | *Patent Office Journal. |
| English Mechanic. | Public Opinion. |
| Era. | Publisher's Circular. |
| Exchange and Mart (Fri.
and Sat.) | Punch, 2 copies. |
| Field. | Railway Review. |
| Fishing Gazette. | Saturday Review. |
| | Saturday Westminster. |

Schoolmaster.	Sphere
Schoolmistress.	Textile Mercury.
Sketch.	Truth.
Spectator.	

MONTHLY.

Athenæum.	Hora Jucunda (Magazine for the Blind).
Badminton Magazine.	
Blackwood's Magazine.	*Insurance Agent and the Insurance Review.
Bookman.	
Boys' Own Paper.	*Journal of the Clerk of Works' Association.
Cassier's Magazine.	Knowledge.
Century Magazine.	Lectures Pour Tous (French Magazine).
Chambers' Journal.	McClure's Magazine.
*Church of England League Gazette.	*Mining Engineering.
Contemporary Review.	Musical Opinion.
Cornhill Magazine.	Musical Times.
*Educational Times.	Nash's and Pall Mall Magazine.
English Review.	National Home - Reading Union Magazines.
Englishwoman.	Naturalist.
Esperantist.	Nineteenth Century.
*Foresters' Miscellany.	Outing Magazine.
Fortnightly Review.	Pearson's Magazine.
Foundry Trades' Journal.	*Positivist Review.
*Great Western Railway Magazine.	Progress (Magazine for the Blind).
*Gregg Shorthand Magazine.	
Harper's Monthly.	

Quiver.	University Correspondent.
Review of Reviews.	*Vaccination Inquirer.
Scottish Field.	*Vegeterian Messenger.
Scribner's Magazine.	Windsor Magazine.
Strand Magazine.	Work.
Studio.	*Zoophilist.
Textile Manufacturer.	

BI-MONTHLY.

The British Printer.

QUARTERLY.

Edinburgh Review.	Post Office Guide.
Hibbert Journal.	Quarterly Review.

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

Bradshaw's Guide.	*London and North-Western.
*Caledonian.	*London and South-Western.
*Cambrian.	*London, Brighton, and
*Furness.	South Coast.
*Great Central.	*London, Chatham, and
*Great Eastern.	Dover.
*Great Northern.	*Midland.
*Great Western.	*South Eastern.
*Lancashire and Yorkshire	

DIRECTORIES.

Gore's Liverpool Directory.

Kelly's Directory of Birmingham, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, etc.

Kelly's Directory of Cheshire.

Kelly's Directory of Derbyshire.

Kelly's Directory of Lancashire.

Kelly's Directory of Manchester, Salford, and Suburban.

Kelly's Post Office London and Suburban Directory.

Kelly's West Riding of Yorkshire.

*London Directory.

*Practical Advertising.

*Stubbs' Directory.

 FILES OF NEWSPAPERS.

The "Times"	.....	from 1881 to 1905
The "Manchester Guardian"	.....	„ 1883 to 1908
The "Manchester Courier"	.....	„ 1887 „
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Reporter"	.....	„ 1860 to date
The "Stalybridge Herald"	.....	for 1888
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Herald"	.....	from 1889 to date
The "Ashton Chronicle"	.....	1848-49
The "Ashton-under-Lyne Standard"	.....	1860-66, 1870-83, and 1885
The "Ashton-under-Lyne News"	from 1868-73
The Ashton-under-Lyne "Weekly Sentinel"	1911-1912

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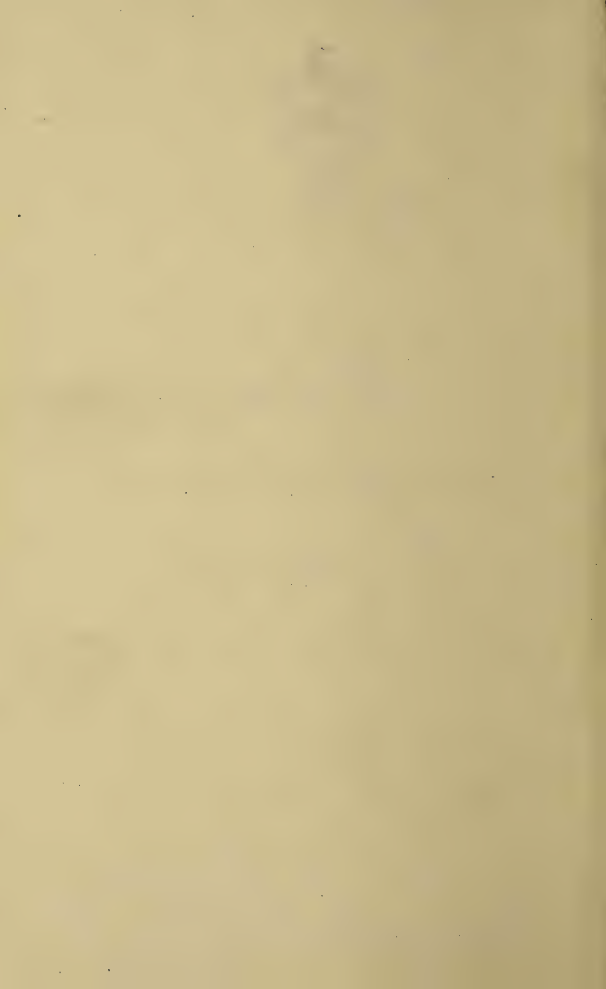
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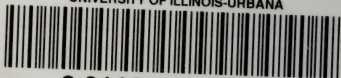
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